137736.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Proclamation Day Parade, 7-15 a.m.
Annual Inspection G. I. P. R. Vols. Ijatpuri.

VESSELS ARRIVED.—The following vessels arrived in the Soon :—Kilwa (s), from Calcutta; Archimede (s), Genoa; and Pemba (s), Bussein.

VESSELS SAILED.—The following vessels sailed yesterday :—Suez (s), for London; Morka (s), Zanzibar; Rangoon (s), Aden, Hodeida and Jeddah; Calder (s), Persian Gulf and Bushire; Pachumba (s), Coast; and Kutchi; Begind (s), Zanzibar and Mozambique; and Rohilla (s), Brindisi and Venice.

ST. THOMAS'S CATHEDRAL.—The Bishop of Bombay will preach in the Cathedral this evening.

ALBERT'S DOCK.—The s.s. Bokhara and Archimede entered, and the s.s. Rohilla and Lady Armstrong left, yesterday.

BOMBAY, BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA RAILWAY.—The decrease in goods traffic on the B. B. & C. I. Railway for the week, ending the 11th December 1886 was 66,268 maunds, and in money Rs. 7,741.

LOST.—A Mr. Yates, residing at Colaba, reported to the police that he dropped a silver watch with a gold Albert chain attached, valued at Rs. 125, on the night of the 28th ultimo, somewhere between the Fort and his house.

THE SAILORS' HOME.—The following is the statement of the number of officers and seamen accommodated in the Home during the past month :—Officers, 187; seamen, 655; casual boarders,—total 969. The greatest number in the Home during the month was 33 and the least 16, the daily average being 31.

THE BOMBAY TELEPHONE COMPANY.—The company have issued a new list of subscribers,—the ninth. The directors call attention to the fact that the company has now been in existence for upwards of four years, and they remind the public that amongst the best proofs of its success are the almost daily additions to the subscribers' list, which now contains over four hundred and fifty names.

COACH BUILDING INDUSTRY IN BOMBAY.—We have been requested to draw the attention of our readers to an advertisement on another page from the Fort Coach Factory, Mr. Pestonjee S. Pross, the proprietor, commenced last year to build a few carriages for the proposed Bombay Exhibition. That scheme having failed, Mr. Pross proposes to keep the carriages on view at his factory for a few days to show what native workmen can do, in this line, with the help of English materials. There is a brougham which is the first of its kind in Bombay, having Indian-rubber tyres to wheels, rubber steps, axle boxes lined with the same material, and springs similarly protected to break the concussion. The carriage is got up in the best style, and though roomy is light enough to be drawn by a 12 hand pony. Mr. Pross also exhibits a victoria, with a patent self-acting hood, which can be worked by the occupant of the carriage without any assistance from the coachman. The hood appears to have no outside joints. The carriages are open for inspection at the factory, Mody Bay—a visit to which place would pay.

CONCERT AT MAZAGON.

A LARGE and most appreciative audience assembled at the St. Peter's Boys' School, Mazagon, on Thursday evening, on the occasion of the second of the series of parochial concerts. The programme was an attractive one, and consisted of several popular songs, pianoforte solos and two part songs, the latter being sung by a choir composed of several ladies and gentlemen under the leadership of Mr. Nixon, and assisted by Father Biscoe at the piano, who gave "Down in a Flow'ry Vale" and "Auld Lang Syne" with excellent effect. Mrs. C. E. Nixon contributed "Friendship," a duet, in common with Mr. R. N. Nixon, and "In the Sweet of the Year," a soprano solo. In both songs her rendering was faultless, and her rich mezzo-soprano voice was heard to full advantage and received encore. Thepiano solos by Miss Martin were marked by care and brilliancy. Mr. Dixon contributed "I am Waiting," and "Queen of the Earth," in rich tenor voice being heard to perfection. He was followed by Mr. Hebditch, whose powerful voice and sympathetic treatment of "The Midshipmite" were heartily applauded. Before singing the part song, "Auld Lang Syne," which terminated the concert, Mr. Nixon, the leader of the choir, remarked to the audience that thanks were mainly due to Father Biscoe, for his exertions to amuse the parish by concerts of this description. He regretted to inform them that Father Biscoe was about to leave Bombay for a short time, and probably would not be present at the next meeting. He would therefore propose "Auld Lang Syne," and requested the audience to join in the chorus, which was cheerfully complied with. "God save the Queen" on the piano by Father Biscoe terminated a pleasant evening.

NATIVE PRESS.

THE BRITISH RAJ.

To whatever criticism of detail it may be open, the British Raj is—now at any rate—a political necessity for India. It might be extravagant to say that, without it, there can be no security of life—no protection of property in the country. It may, with better truth, be urged that when it came into existence in India there was little or none. If any fact is more patent than all others in the history of India, it is the invasion from without, and depredations from within, during the later period of the Moghul rule, when the sceptre of Akbar and Aurengzeb fell into weaker hands, and when the imperial authority could hardly be maintained even in the provinces around the capital. The invasion of Nadir Shah was a frightful calamity. It not only gave a deathblow to the Empire—"el coup de hache jusque dans ses racines"—but also caused immeasurable loss of life and property to the people. That descent was a signal for general revolt. The provinces of the Empire became independent, and the Mahrattas, who were struggling for the consolidation of their power since the days of Aurengzeb, appeared on the scene to measure their strength with any competitors for the sovereignty of India. The battle of Panipat, however, shattered their hopes for ever, and hastened the dissolution of what remained of the once mighty Empire of the Moghuls in India. In the scramble for dominion among the provincial governors and daring adventurers for power, there was neither protection of property nor security of life—neither rule nor order; all was disorganisation and chaos. In a word, a perfect anarchy prevailed, under which people were reduced to wretchedness in the extreme. It was under such circumstances that the English appeared on the scene, and succeeded gradually to extend their sway over the fairest Provinces. With the establishment of their Government, external inroads at once ceased, and internal violence came to an end; until, now, from one end of the country to the other, the Pax Britannica now reigns to the joy of the people. A peace so profound and so extensive India had never enjoyed before, and she owes it all to the presence of the British. If the British Government has secured nothing more for our country than this profound peace, it has, to our thinking, established the highest claim to our earnest gratitude and secured a right for its existence among us.—*Rast and Rayat.*

ADDITIONAL PASSENGERS BY THE HOMEWARD MAIL.

THE P. and O. Co's s.s. Rohilla, Captain W. Barratt, sailed yesterday for London with the mails and the following additional passengers :—

For London.—Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Parry.
For Brindisi.—Mr. W. E. Frere.
For Venice.—Mr. G. Grainger.

PASSENGERS BY THE ITALIAN MAIL STEAMER.

THE following is the list of passengers per Italian Mail steamer Archimede, Captain Canepa, which arrived yesterday :—

FROM GENOA.

Mrs A Toulmin	Mr H Katy
Mr E P Henderson	Mr G Lockhart
Mrs Henderson and child	Mr D Cama
Mr-Col R W Hesketh	Mrs Cama
Mrs Hesketh and child	Mr and Mrs C Marcks
Mr V L Fiess	Rev Mr Orbeson
Lt F G Anderson	Mrs Orbeson
Mrs Anderson	Mr A B Pritchard
Col W Jeffreys	Mr Navarro de Paiva
Mrs Parsons and child	Mr A Bettarmann
Miss Parsons	Mr N F Hanay
Mr P Brownfield	Mr E Beatshaw
Mr K De Menzes	Dr Soutini
Mr E Honneger	Mr Pirchio

FROM ADEN.—42 deck.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY.

BOMBAY, 30th December, 1886.

Means of observations at 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected 32 deg. Fah.	29·941
Temperature of the Air	74·7
Wet Bulb Thermometer	69·4
Dew Point	64·8
Relative humidity of Air	71·5
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded=10)	1·5
Maximum temperature of air (read at 6 p.m.)	80·2
Minimum do. do (read at 10 a.m.)	68·1
General Directions of Wind.*	NE, ENE, NNE, NW, NNW.
Movement of wind in 24 hours*	233

* From midnight to midnight.

FLORILINE !—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH.—A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or fermentation, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. The "Fragrant Floriline," being composed in part of honey and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Price Re. 1, of all Chemists and Perfumers throughout the world. Sold wholesale by The Alexandra Rose Day Company, Limited, 95, Farringdon Road, London.

ANOTHER CATECHISM.

THE Lahore paper is responsible for the statement that the following questions have been addressed by members of the general public to the members of the Public Service Commission on the conclusion of their stay in Lahore :—

PERSONAL AND PARTICULAR.

(1) Have you individually or collectively any notion what you are going to do? If so, how many, and why?

(2) Admitting for a moment that you would condescend to such frivolities, are you prepared to lay odds against your not falling out among yourselves within the next six weeks? If so, how long does your book stand open, and what are your terms?

(4) On the hypothesis that none of you had any preconceived opinions when the Commission began, what was the dominant impression in your several minds (*a*) as the dafri dealt round the blotting-pads and paper slips; (*b*) as the President cleared his throat for the opening speech; and (*c*) as you saw the look in the eye of the first native witness.

(5) How many of you cherish the delusion that you are going to "make your mark" on this Commission; and in pursuance of this intention how far will you make yourselves nuisances to the rest of the Commission?

(6) How long will your performance go on for; and what are the prices of admission?

(7) On the hypothesis that any sane person would reply at length to your one hundred and eighty-four questions, what do you think would be his mental condition by the time he had finished? Would it approximate to yours? If so in what respects?

(8) Pre-supposing that it is a cold morning, and all the windows have been left open overnight, do you consider it, (*a*) expedient, (*b*) dignified, or (*c*) imperatively necessary to sit for places nearest the one fire in the Lawrence Hall?

(9) When you hear the light-hearted subaltern putting on his pumps in the dressing-room, next door, for an afternoon dance, are you filled (*a*) with envy or (*b*) with contempt?

(10) How do you and the Fancy Ball Committee arrange matters generally; and particularly in regard to the Fancy Ball Supper?

(11) On the supposition that you do diligently sit still daily from 10-30 a.m., till 5-30 p.m., do you not hold that the Provincial Government might supply cushions, at P. W. D. rates, for your chairs?

GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE.

(12) State briefly, with examples, the shortest way of discovering whether a witness has been "crammed" with answers to your questions. How may the cramming be eliminated in the process of cross-examination; and what resemblance does the witness, after such elimination, bear to a piece of chewed string?

(13) Upon what gross moderate estimate, how many times has the word "domiciled" and "domiciliary," with all its derivatives, been used at your *sederunt*, and by whom?

(14) On the hypothesis that you eventually submit a report (*a*) three times larger than that of the Education Commission; (*b*) twice as big as the Famine Report, when do you suppose that your recommendations will be acted on?

(15) Allowing that you allow that, (*a*) a pleader (*b*) an editor of a vernacular newspaper, (*c*) the president of any Anjuman or Sabha, collectively represent the opinion of the Indian public, with a capital P; for a radius of thirty miles from such place or places as, (*1*) the pleader may plead, (*2*) the editor may edit, (*3*) the president may preside, don't you find their evidence extremely valuable and disinterested?

(16) On the hypothesis that you are elementarily acquainted with Shakespeare, in what point is your present position analogous to that of the cook, who smote the cels on the head and cried :—"Down, wantons, down?"

(17) Basing your inference on a general knowledge of the amusements of the lighter hours of an educated native of twenty in England, have you any grounds for supposing, (*a*) that the ennobling influence of the Pavilion, (*b*) the chastened atmosphere of the Gaiety Burlesque, (*c*) of the pure morality of Romano's, between 11 p. m. and 2 A. M. distributed over four and twenty months would be blest either to (*a*) a native civilian, (*b*) or the villages in his district on his return to India?

(18) If open competitive examination were held in India for the Covenanted posts reserved for natives, have you any notion how a successful candidate would behave (*a*) as District Judge with a Moharrum Riot in the head town of his charge, (*b*) as Assistant Commissioner with a cholera outbreak in an outlying *tehsil* (*c*) as Deputy Commissioner pending an attempted dacoity on the Treasury, (*d*) the same official on hearing news of a *lathi* scuffle three miles away?

(19) Depict broadly on paper the delight of a Katoch Rajput of the Jalandhar district on being invested in open Durbar with the Companionship of the Indian Empire by a Deputy Commissioner the son of a *Nai*, who had shaved Englishmen.

(20) Touch lightly on the sentiments of an high caste Bunia convicted of fraud and conspiracy to extort by an Assistant Commissioner, son of a *Marwat*—by choice a *Nagpat*—and graduate of two universities.

(21) In view of the present season of the year, state how far peace and good-will among men would be promoted were a disorderly Pathan sepoy at Multan summarily tried and punished by a Rora Khatri Magistrate, whose grandfather had been kidnapped on the Hasara frontier by the grandfather of the said sepoy?

TRAGEDY AT TUNDLA.

THE Tundla correspondent of the *Delhi Gazette* writes the following account of the terrible railway accident which occurred in that station on Christmas Day. He says :—

A Guard on the East Indian Railway, by name Lane, came off his train at midday (on the 24th). A little later he was seen, accompanied by his wife and children, at the Co-operative Stores, where he purchased Xmas cards, toys, &c. Returning home, he opened a chest and taking out a six-chambered revolver, proceeded to charge it. On being questioned by his wife, he lightly replied that five were for others, and one for himself. So saying he put the weapon away, into his *khana-box* (a box usually carried by railway guards and drivers on the train with them). He went out and was seen with two other guards, who occupied a room next door to the aforementioned "Stores" (of course brandy and songs was the order of the hour). On the latter becoming boisterous, the traffic superintendent, Mr. Bramall, happening to be in the Stores at that time, stopped across, and, standing in their doorway, was accosted with, "Come along, old chap, and have a peg." He sternly demanded if they knew who he was. He was answered in the affirmative, and the same invitation again extended. This provoked the officer, who said he would take note of them on the morrow; whereupon one of them threatened to kick him out of the house if he did not quit immediately. Here Lane jumped up saying, "Leave him to me, gentlemen, and I'll see to him." and left the place. Lane was now seen hurrying across to his own house, a few blocks away, where he went straight to his khana-box and took out the revolver.

His wife seeing this, and fearing personal injury, fled to the house of the European Police Inspector for protection, as also to give information. Meanwhile Lane's eldest son (a youth of about 20) clung to his father and tried to remonstrate with him and get the weapon away; he shook off the lad, threatened to shoot him if he interfered. The son, however, followed him to the house where he had been drinking, and told the other guards that his father had a revolver in his waist, and they had better get it from him. They laughed at him, and said: "He's all right, leave him alone. Tom won't do anything." Lane then tried to persuade one of his companions to go with him, but, failing in this, he stepped across into the Stores, and while Mr. Bramall was in the act of handing down some cards to the ladies fired at him; the ball entered the palm and came out above the wrist of the left hand. Mr. Bramall fell. The Doctor, who was also present, seized Lane by the throat, and was fired at, the ball just passing his cheek. In the scuffle Lane dropped the weapon. The Doctor's attention being called to Mr. Bramall, who was bleeding profusely, Lane got up and walked quietly away. The Doctor followed, and, putting his arm in that of Lane, sought an explanation for such rash conduct, which Lane refused to give. On nearing his house, Lane ordered the Doctor not to injure him, and would like to be left alone.

On entering the house Lane ordered his son to fetch a knife, and while the lad looked for one, Lane had secured all the doors but one. He inquired if the lad had found a knife, and was answered in the negative. He asked if any one was about; the lad said "No." He then told him to come in. The lad hesitated and asked his father if he meant to shoot him, for an express rifle was now in his father's hands. He said no, but wanted him to get some cartridges from a box. The lad entered and was almost immediately shot dead. He went to the box as desired, and fumbled and fidgeted (for he was almost powerless and certainly speechless with terror, as he assured me). Yet, keeping his eye on his father, he saw him find a few cartridges, load the express, lie down on his bed, pull off one boot, and heard him call his son to say "good-bye." It was now the boy started up crying, "Father, don't, don't," and hastily unbolting a door ran out crying "Help! help!" He met three soldiers and a railway guard on the road in front of the house, and while with tear she explained the circumstances, entreating them to come, a report was heard; a few seconds more, another report. The men laughed and said: "That's the second report; you see he is only fooling." Then a third report was heard, and all was still, but none dared to venture into the place, except an old cook who was half drunk, and said he'd risk his life. He returned saying no one was in the house. By this time Lane's cousin (a lady) had come, and going in discovered the body half across the bed, with face and upper part of the head blown away. The inquest gave a verdict of temporary insanity. The Rev. F. Kennedy (Chaplain of Tundla) buried the mortal remains of poor Lane, who leaves a wife and eight children behind him. Mr. Bramall, I understand, is doing well; were it not for the Doctor's brave act, he, too, might have been placed by the side of Lane.

DIRECTIONS FOR THE USE OF GUYOT'S TAR SOLUTION.

As a Beverage.—A table-spoonful in a tumbler of water is the remedy for colds, irritation of the chest throat affections, and diseases of the bladder; it is besides excellent as a health-preserving drink during hot weather and epidemics.

At Rio-de-Janeiro it has been noticed that persons habitually using Guyot's Tar Solution are thereby rendered proof against yellow fever.

As a Lotion.—Use one part of Guyot's Tar Solution to one part water.

Guyot's Tar Solution has been tried with great success in theospitals as a wash for skin diseases, prickly-heat, shing, falling off of the hair, and for disinfecting wounds of a bad nature. Each bottle is accompanied full instructions for use

Agents in Bombay: Messrs. KEMP & Co.; TEACHER & Co.; THOMSON & TAYLOR; COOPER, MADON & Co.

BENGAL AND N.-W. RAILWAY.

ON the 17th ultimo the extension of the Bengal and North-Western Railway to Nepalganj, a town near the frontier line of Nepal, was opened by Colonel Forbes, the Commissioner of Fyzabad, in the presence of about 150 people—Europeans and natives—who had been invited by the Agent and Chief Engineer of the Railway to witness the ceremony. Before giving details it would not, perhaps, be out of place to furnish a short description of the extension and the country through which it passes.

Immediately on leaving Bahraich the line trends northwards in a long curve, rendered necessary to keep it well out of the old bed of the Surjoo, along the edge of the bank of which it runs for the first 10 or 12 miles, through a low scrub jungle, until the first station, Risia, is reached, where cultivation again commences. From this point to the terminus on the Nepal frontier the line runs through one continuous well-cultivated plain, the last 10 miles being noted for its rice produce. The old bed of the Surjoo was known by the name of "Tirhur," in contradistinction to the "Up rhar" or tableland, from which it is divided by a distinct line or bank which was formerly the left bank of the river (once was close to Bahraich, but is now 22 miles away.) It was diverted into a new channel by an enterprising Englishman, who thereby hoped to benefit his timber traffic, and has left a rich alluvial plain which has been made full use of and now teems with crops. The whole of the merchandise from this district has, up till now, been carried by water from Khairi Ghat, up by the opening of the new extension, the Agent hopes to obtain the greater portion, if not the whole, of this traffic. Tangible proofs that his hopes are likely to be realised were not wanting as at Nanpara and Bahraich enormous heaps of grain and piles of bags, lying ready to be loaded, were to be seen close to the stations long before the day appointed for the opening. A bazaar is being built, at Nanpara for the accommodation of merchants and their goods, by the owner of the land which it is designed to occupy, to whom no doubt, as well as to the line, it will be a source of profit, while at Nepalganj it is hoped that the Bulramper officials will see their way to erecting a similar bazaar or gola.

To return to our account of the opening. A special train leaving Gonda with Colonel Forbes and the civil officers and residents of the station, arrived, after a quick and pleasant run, at Bahraich, once the terminal station of the line, and, picking up its quota of guests, once more steamed away for Nepalganj, which was reached very early in the morning of the 31st, the steamers donned for the occasion. Here Mr. and Mrs. Izat were present to welcome the guests who, on alighting, at once proceeded to the spot where Colonel Forbes with silver spanner and fish bolt linked in the last pair of rails and declared the line open, thus completing the second chapter in the history of the Bengal and North-Western Railway. The party then adjourned to breakfast in a large *shamiana* erected close at hand. After the "Queen Empress" had been duly honoured Colonel Forbes spoke as follows :—

"Mr. Izat, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Those of us who were present at the first inaugural ceremony in connection with this Railway, when the Ajodhya-Bahraich section was opened on the 31st March 1884 by his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner, will call to mind the feeling of satisfaction (in the case of sportsmen perhaps not entirely unmixed with regret) with which we regarded the prosecution of the iron horse into what our friends on the other side of the Gogra were wont to describe as the jungles of Gonda and Bahraich. It was there than a feeling of satisfaction—I venture to say that it was with a sense of honest pride—that we, Englishmen, regarded the completion of the first portion of a great work which has added yet one more to the many achievements of science and civilisation in India—one more link to bind the mother-country with its mighty Empire in the East; and which has afforded to the natives one more proof of the sincerity of our desire to develop the resources of their country, to stimulate its trade and to protect it from the calamitous effects of famine. The Bengal and North-Western Railway—then in its infancy—has since advanced with giant strides and with a rapidity which is astonishing, and the position it has now attained is as creditable to its engineers as it must be gratifying to the board of directors and shareholders. Work was actually started, I believe, in the month of October 1882. On the 31st March 1884 the first section was opened for traffic, and comprised 72½ miles. Some nine months later, on the 12th January 1885, the main line, or Mankapur Sohepore section, comprising 230½ miles, was opened with a brilliant and imposing ceremonial, befitting the occasion, and at which were present the Lieutenant-Governors of the North-West Provinces and of Bengal. In the following November was commenced the Nepalganj extension, 33½ miles long, the opening of which we are here assembled to-day to celebrate. The value of this section, and of the Uska branch, which takes us right up to the limit of our frontier, can hardly be over-rated. I do not allude so much to the importance of these lines in connection with the possible requirements of a military organisation, as to the political and administrative advantages they are calculated to secure to us by the gradual removal of those restrictions which have hitherto interposed so trying an obstacle to our commercial relations with Nepal, and which we intended to look up so much of the produce of that country to the detriment alike of British and Nepalese traders, as well as of the promotion of a more cordial social intercourse with our northern neighbours. Including the Uska branch, the total length now traversed by the Bengal and North-Western Railway is [illegible] miles, and the gross earnings for the half year ending the 30th June last, had been [illegible] the large sum of 136 lakhs of rupees. The earnings of the Company, I am informed, for the half year ending the 30 June last amounted to five lakhs, representing a return of rather more than 4 per cent. per annum on the outlay; a result which sufficiently demonstrates the success of this undertaking from a financial point of view, and on which the Company, Mr. Izat, the able Chief Managerial Agent and Chief Engineer, and his staff are to be heartily congratulated. And in alluding to the officers who have so cordially co-operated with Mr. Izat in this successful enterprise, I feel that the occasion is a befitting one to do honour to the memory of one of their number whose promising career was cut short by the melancholy accident which occurred in this district just two years ago. Ludovic Ewing was personally known to most of us, while his generous disposition and bright sunny nature endeared him to not a few. His loss has, I am sure, been keenly felt by the Company he served so faithfully and well. And now, ladies and gentlemen, it only remains for me to ask you to join me in thanking Mr. Izat for the handsome manner in which we have been entertained to-day, and for the enjoyment which has been afforded us in this delightful trip to the frontier. Mr. Izat and officers of the Bengal and North-Western Railway, on behalf of all there present, I beg to thank you for your kindness and hospitality, and heartily wish all success to the great work in which you are engaged. Ladies and gentlemen, I beg to propose the toast of day—The Bengal and North-Western Railway Company coupled with the names of Mr. and Mrs. Izat."

Mr. Izat, in responding, said :—

"Colonel Forbes, Ladies, Rajas and Gentlemen,—I have to thank you in the name of the Railway Company, for the manner in which you have received the toast proposed by Colonel Forbes. The opening of this short extension is probably not a very large matter in itself, but I venture to think it is a very important one for the north Gogra districts of Gonda and Bahraich, and it is expected to have a very beneficial effect on the prosperity of the Bengal and North-Western Railway. The district through which the line passes, though not very thickly populated, is generally highly cultivated, and exports large quantities of rice, wheat and seeds. From the important mart of Nepalganj there is also a large export of ginger, turmeric and other spices, and our neighbours, the Nepalese, import a considerable quantity of salt, sugar, cloth, &c. The trade in grain, seeds and salt has hitherto been chiefly carried by the Gogra river, and Khari Bazaar has been the market from which the trade was shipped. The opening of the railway two-and-a-half years ago to Bahraich scarcely affected the Khari Bazaar and Gogra river traffic. At Bahraich the railway stopped 22 miles short of the great stream of traffic towards the river; but now that the extension brings it into immediate contact with this traffic at Nanpara, Babaganj and Nepalganj, it is hoped that the advantages which it offers for cheap, rapid and safe transit will draw to it the bulk of the trade and help to stimulate the mercantile enterprise of the district. The extension, it is thus hoped, will prove not only a great boon to these districts, but a great feeder to the railway, and will make the Mankapur-Bahraich section, hitherto the least productive part, a profitable portion of the line. The extension is 33½ miles long and is estimated to cost Rs. 12,80,000 or Rs. 38,100 per mile. Its construction was begun in November 1885, and now, 3 months thereafter, it is being opened for traffic. Its narrow, besides like other lines on the open line, has been the executive officer in charge of the work, Mr. Robinson and Mr. Addis being the Assistant Engineers. To these gentlemen the thanks of the Company are due for the creditable manner in which the work has been pushed on and executed. Mr. Surgeon and Mr. Greenfield, Inspectors have also devoted themselves conscientiously to the work.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, thanking you again for your hearty good wishes to the railway, I shall conclude."

The breakfast and speeches over, one or two photographs were taken. During the arrangements of the group for one of these, a *Fakir* with an enormous umbrella caused a good deal of amusement by placing himself in a prominent position which he was allowed to retain. The train then came up and, everyone taking their seats, steamed away for Bahraich at a rate of about 40 miles an hour.

GRAFFENBERG PILLS.

Sold by COOPER, MADON & CO., Ld,

Price—As. 10.

These PILLS act with great mildness and may be taken at any time with benefit.

They cure all forms of Malarial Diseases and Fevers, and should be used to stimulate the Liver and Kidneys to healthy action. They are invaluable for Headache, Biliousness and Bowel Complaints.

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS AT CALCUTTA.

THE first public meeting of the delegates who have arrived in Calcutta from various parts of India to take part in the discussions of the National Congress took place on Monday afternoon at the Town Hall. The assemblage was a very large one, the following being among those present :—Rai Kanja Lall Banerjee Bahadur, Babu Surendro Nath Sen, Mr. R. D. Mehta, Mr. F. M. Rustomji, Babu Protab Chunder Mozoomdar, Mr. N. Ghose, the Hon. K. N. Mitter, Mr. Robert Knight, Mr. A. O. Kasinagiri, Mr. Jotendro Nath Roy Chowdry, Mr. Jogesh Chunder Dutt, Mr. Hem Chunder Mullick, Mr. Janaki Nath Roy, Mr. Jagannath Khannah, Maharaja Jotendro Mohun Tagore, Raja Rajendra Nath Deb Bahadur, Dr. Rajendralala Mittra, Babu Durgachuen Law, Dr. Mohendro Lall Sircar, Babu Shama Charan Law. Mr. H. J. S. Cotton, Mr. O. Hume, Babu Jotendro Nath Tagore, the Hon. A. Bose, Mr. W. C. Bonnerji, Babu Sambhu Chunder Mukerji, Mr. K. M. Chatterji, Dr. Trailokho Nath Mitter, Mr. Nil Krishna, Kumar Bimat Krishna, Bahadur, and the Hon. Surendra Mohun Mukerji.

The Hon. S. Subramania Iyer, of Madras, proposed that Rai Rajendralala Mittra, D.L., do take the chair, pending the election of a president. The motion was seconded by the Hon. K. S. Talang, C. I. E. (Bombay), and carried unanimously.

The chairman, in opening the proceedings, said that the first duty he had to perform on the present occasion was to receive and welcome the delegates who had arrived from different provinces to take part in their deliberations. It was a most gratifying duty, and he most gladly welcomed those gentlemen to that meeting and to Calcutta. In the name of his colleagues who had organised this Congress he repeated the welcome, and in the name of the citizens of Calcutta he begged to tender them their most cordial thanks for the kindly manner in which they had attended their right minds, and the cordial manner in which they had responded to the invitation. It had been the dream of his life to see the scattered units of his race coalesce and Act together, that, instead of living merely as individuals, they might some day be able to stand together and to live as a nation. (Cheers.) In that meeting he beheld the evidence of such an occurrence, and he hoped the nation would not be far distant. It might not be left to him to realise the sight, but it was gratifying to all to see assembled there delegates from the Punjab, the south, the east, and the west, all feelings and to join in deliberating for the good of the country. There was a time when their forefathers lived as a single race. Circumstances led to their disruption and kept them apart, and it was, therefore, not a matter of small rejoicing that they should have surmounted difficulties and met together. In the enthusiasm for his race he had forgotten the Mahomedan gentlemen who had graced that meeting. They were as welcome as his own people, and he looked upon their presence that day as a guarantee that this was truly a National Congress. Different they were in origin, manners, religion, and customs, but they were not the less members of the same race. (Cheers.) They were subjects of the same sovereign, and their good or evil depended entirely upon the state of the government and the laws which were passed in this country. Whatever was beneficial to the Mohamedan was equally so to the Hindu, and whatever was injurious to the former was equally injurious to the latter. Could they then say they were not equally interested in the welfare of the country? Nations were not made of sects, but of units in one political band. They were of the same political band, and therefore constituted one nation. He went upon this as the dawn of a better and purer day for India. He looked upon this as a quickening of the national life. He foretold he hoped they would all live as a nation, united one and all, to promote the welfare of their motherland. It was absurd to suppose there would be a perfect union. A great deal had been written lately about the impropriety of this Congress. Scandalous and absurd stories had been told against them of their being a disaffected people, of their being dependent on wirepullers and professional agitators. They would not say a word about those who termed them disloyal. But there were others who were kinder in their tone, and therefore more injurious in their action. They had been told they were trying to force the hands of the Government. He did not clearly understand this. He had occasionally cut in at a hand at whist, and he knew that in certain positions it was an object to force the hand of an opponent. But were they really forcing the hands of their opponents the Government? Did they really look upon the Government as their opponent? Did the Government desire that something should be kept secret and away from public ken? No—those who said so libelled the Government. Again, they were told that they should have confidence in the policy of the Government. Away with such an announcement. Never have a policy of confidence. If they had full confidence in the Government they could not adopt a policy of the semblance of a policy. If they have perfect confidence in the Government, therefore it was absurd to talk of a policy of semblance. Government had already adopted a resolution for an enquiry. Did they for a moment believe that in assembling there that day they were in any way forestalling the decision of the Government? Government had said the Public Service Commission was of a judicial character, and that the whole business would depend upon the evidence produced before it. The meeting of the Congress was intended to prepare the evidence, and not to forestall the Government. There were some other arguments used, but all were of the same stamp. The two subjects which the Congress would deal with were of a varied character. The first would be the reconstitution of the Councils. He looked upon this [illegible] Nothing could be done, nothing could be said, nothing could be advantageous as long as these Councils retained their present constitution. All other things dwindled into littleness when placed beside this preliminary question of the reformation of the Councils. Time was when the old Councils existed; when there was no representation, and when laws were promulgated from the closed doors of the Council Chamber. But after that Government wanted co-operation, and the first step taken was in getting in a gentlemen of experience and of judicial light and leading. This was a poor substitute, and the Council felt it to be utterly worthless, and the Councils under which they lived came into existence, and were a great improvement upon the former. They held several representatives, but the evil was that these representatives were not representatives of anybody but themselves. They represented no one but their own good interest. They were consulted, but consulted more for ornamentation than usefulness. Some again were dummies, some took up the role of *sphat waste*, but all these were not the men they wanted. They were not living under a national Government, but under a foreign idiosyncrasy. Foreign rulers, differing in habits, language, and everything that divided humanity into different sections, could not possibly dive into the feelings of their hearts and aspirations. It was impossible for them to do so. With reference to this question, there was one point which should never be forgotten, and that was the right to interpellation. At present, owing to the peculiar circumstances of the Government, there was no interchange of opinions. People were only left to guess what the other side thought after the Government had spoken on one side. Next there came the important matter of the Public Service question. In all parts of the world nations governed themselves. Now young men had to go 2,000 miles away from their homes at the age of sixteen to pass examinations, and too often they were ruined. Canada was governed by Canadians without their having to go to England to get educated; the same thing was done at the Cape, the same in Australia and Ceylon, and what was true of this was equally true of other countries. He would not go into all the other subjects which would be dealt with by the Congress, but would close by simply urging that in whatever they did, in whatever they said, of whatever they complained, they should bear in mind that moderation was of the utmost importance. Let all speeches and resolutions be moderate in tone. (Loud cheers.)

Baba Joy Kissen Mukerji rose and said:—I have the honour to move that Mr. Naoroji be elected President of the Congress. I do not think that because our Parsi friends did us the high honour to elect our distinguished countryman, Mr. W. C. Bonnerji, as president of the Congress held last year at Bombay, we are bound to return the compliment by electing a Parsi gentleman to the chair at the present Congress. But happily, we have in Mr. Naoroji a gentleman who would do honour to any assembly over which he might be called upon to preside. Warm devotedness to his country, a life spent in active participation in every public movement for her welfare, distinguished abilities, and singular moderation both in aspiration and expression,—what more could be desired in one whom we wish to guide the deliberations of the Congress? The task before him is far from a difficult or disagreeable one. The assembly over which we request him to preside is not one composed of village Parnells met together for the purpose of giving vent to disloyal feelings or to express discontent with the Government of the country, but bodies of men who have met together to give expression to our feelings of loyalty to the throne, to offer thanksgiving and payer for the incalculable benefits which have been conferred on us by her Gracious Majesty's Government, and to lay at the foot of the throne our humble suggestions for the improvement of those administrative measures which have not kept pace with the spread of education and enlightenment and with the progress of the country. No wonder that objects such as these should have drawn together distinguished gentlemen from all parts of the country when you find a blind old man of seventy-nine, bending under the infirmities of age, taking a part in your deliberations.

Sheik Reza Hossein Khan, president of Riffa-i-Am, Lucknow, seconded the proposal and made a speech in Hindustani which, after he had spoken, was translated into English by Mr. Hamed Ali. It was to the effect that in the province from whence the speaker came Mohamedans and Hindus lived in perfect accord. His coming from a distance of 600 miles was to show that the Mohamedan there had the deepest sympathy with the objects the present meeting had in view.

The motion was then put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Mr. Dadabhoy Naoroji then rose amid much cheering, and said that he need hardly tell them how sincerely thankful he was for being placed in that position of honour. He must say he felt exceedingly proud as well as highly flattered at the compliment that had been paid him. This Congress was an event of the utmost possible importance. Here they had assembled together all classes and communities, an event which, even in the halcyon days of the old Hindu or Mohamedan Emperors, was never known. This was an occasion to which the past was as nothing. On it depended their future; whether it would be glorious or inglorious rested in their hands. It was their good fortune that they lived under a rule which made it possible for them to meet in this manner. Here they met under the British Government, to say whatever was in their minds without the least hesitation. (Cheers). Such a thing was possible under British rule only. Was this Congress one of sedition or rebellion against the Government? (Loud cries of "no, no, no") or was it another stone on the foundation and building of that empire? (Cries of "yes, yes.") The Congress represented security to life and property under the British rule in India. British rule and British masters had taught them to understand what they were, and what their future political aims ought to be. It was to them they owed their education, to none they were sincere in their declaration, made half a century ago, that India was placed by Providence in their hands to administer beneficially. All were aware that that rule was a great blessing to India. They had been brought from darkness into light. Under the Asiatic rule the political condition was the people for the king, while under this free Government the rule was the king for the people. This was the new lesson learnt after thousands of years. Had the Government belief in what they now said? Did they say the Indians were loyal to that rule? They did, and the reasons were gratitude and self-interest. With reference to this point the speaker went on to quote a remark of Lord Ripon that what was good for India was good for England. The speaker then quoted another remark of Sir Bartle Frere's, to the effect that even the educated classes in the country were well affected towards the Government. He next quoted from a despatch to the Secretary of State in which it was stated that the people accepted the British rule without any need to an appeal to arms, because the Government did justice and because much material good had been done to the country. That at once settled the question that the Government believed that the people were loyal. Turning next to the effect that the speaker combated the idea that it should turn its attention to matters of social reform. There were many subjects of social reform which demanded attention, but these would be dandelion compared to that which should take one understand that, as India is still able to produce a large quantity of silk, the right way to remedy present evils is by the introduction of the improved processes new well known and much appreciated in Europe. This would enable India to recover its importance as a silk country. If the countries which have withstood and still withstand so gallantly the disappointments and losses occasioned by the diseases which have for so many years destroyed the silkworm did not protect themselves with greater self-sacrifice and perseverance than India does, the result would be not only the complete loss of the silk industry to which entirely subsist by it. Unfortunately, this is not the case, and the silk industry is declining more rapidly every year. The disease exist here in the worst form, a fact which I ascertained by microscopical inspection in 1884 and 1885 of worms obtained from various native growers. Since that period I have not had occasion to continue my experiments, but the complaints from the

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

FRIDAY, DEC. 31.

The market is closed for the New Year Holidays.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE s. s. Kilwa, 953 tons, Captain R J Phillips, arrived in Bombay yesterday morning with a general cargo.

THE s. s. Prince Llewellyn, 1,100 tons, Captain T G H Emerson, will sail to-day for Trieste and Venice with a miscellaneous cargo and ten passengers.

The s. s. Dago, 1,239 tons, Captain R Macgregor, obtained her clearance yesterday afternoon, for Antwerp. She carries a general cargo, and Dr and Mrs Robinson, as passengers.

THE B I S N Co.'s Steamer Pachumba, sailed last evening for Coast and Kurrachee under Captain J W Livingstone, with a general cargo and six first class, and 62 deck passengers for various ports.

THE s. s. Poseidon, 2,309 tons, Captain J Doncich, obtained her port clearance last evening for Hongkong and Shanghai laden with general cargo and carrying three deck passengers. She will sail to-day.

THE B I S N Co's s s. Baghdad, 809 tons, sailed under Capt. in F M Frahawk, for Zanzibar and Mozambique, last evening. She is laden and carries the following passengers:—for Aden—Lieut Bell, Lt B Mackenzie, Lt. C C Collins, Mr [illegible] Godfolk, Lt. Brownrigge, two native gentlemen, their wives and two children. [illegible] James, 3 children, one infant and [illegible] deck.

THE B I S N Co's. Steamer [illegible] tons, 986 tons, Captain W H Rothwell, arrived in Bombay yesterday, with a general cargo, including 99 chests of opium and the following passengers from Bareh,—Captain Low, Captain Russell, Mr J W McMullen, Mr U M Slater, Messrs. Abdoola Ibn Yoosoof, Syed Ebhrahim, Mahomed Yosan, R Taher, Vernacular and 58 deck.

VESSELS IN THE PRINCE'S DOCK.
31ST DECEMBER.

Vessels.	Net Tonnage	Captains.	Sheds.	Company or Agents.
S.S. Roumania..	2207	J. Haris	B	W. & A. Graham & Co.
,, Khiva	1505	S. Baron.....	C	P. & O. Co.
,, Rohilla	2251	W. Barret	D	P. & O. Co.
,, Atrato.....	2066	G. Gordon.....	F	F. Muir & Co.
,, C. McDonald.	1799	W. Miller	G	F. Muir & Co.
,, Husara	1344	D. Campbell....	H	B. I. S. N. Co.
,, Amana	2131	J. Thwaite.....	K	K. Nixon & Co.
,, Lady Armstrong	1343	W. Abbott.....	L	James Mackintosh & Co.
,, Kirby Hall..	1759	G. D. Pearse....	M	E. Bates & Co.
,, Dago	1239	R. McGregor ..	N	F. Muir & Co.
,, Accomac ..	1622	G. W. Windsor.	O	Bates Craig & Co
,, L. Tower ..	1809	G. Nelson	O	Bates Craig & Co.
,, Rogal	1636	J. A. Stewart ..	Q	K. Nixon & Co.

ARRIVALS.

Dec.	Vessels.	Commander	From.
30	Kilwa (s)	Phillips	Calcutta, Dec. 6.
	Archimede (s)	Ottavio	Genoa, Dec. 10.
	Pemba (s)	Rothwell ..	Basrah.

DEPARTURES.

Dec.	Vessels.	Commander	Destination.
31	Suez (s)	Morris	London.
	Marks (s)	Nakoda	Zanzibar.
	Bangalore (s)	Baldwin	Aden, Hoodeida and Jeddah.
	Calder (s)	Cormack.....	Persian Gulf and Bushire.
	Pachumba (s)	Livingstone.	Coast and Karachi.
	Bagdad (s)	Frohawk ..	Zanzibar and Mozambique.
	Rohilla (s)	Barratt	Brindisi and Venice.

The following vessel obtained their port clearances yesterday:
Steamer Clan McDonald, W. J. Rule, for Calcutta.
,, Poseidon, J. Doncich, for Hongkong.
,, Nuddea, A. B. Cave, for Galle.
,, Klyde, N. Care, for Quilon.
Ship Golden Horn, R. Schelmen, for Rangoon.
Steamer Culna, H. B. Wood, for Galle.
,, Kirby Hall, G. Pearse, for Liverpool.
,, F. Llewelyn, T. G. H. Emerson, for Trieste and Venice.
,, Dago, R. Macgregor for Antwerp.

The following vessels commenced loading yesterday:—
Steamer Pemba, for Karachi.
,, Inchcarvie, for Liverpool.
,, Yorwarts, for Singapore.
,, Kilwa, for Coast and Calcutta.
,, Archimede, for Singapore, Penang and Hongkong.

CALCUTTA.

Dec.	ARRIVALS.		
27	Medina (s)	Anderson ..	Rangoon, Dec. 20.
	Olive (s)	Creagh	Rangoon, Dec. 21.
	Sirsa (s)	Stuart	Bar

Dec. 27.—Steamer Adrapore.

SCHIEDMAYER'S PIANOS.

CALCUTTA EXHIBITION
THE HIGHEST AWARD FOR
SYMPATHETIC SQUARE PIANOS,
SOUNDY & CO., LD., BOMBAY,
Sole Agents in India for the
SCHIEDMAYER PIANOFORTE FABRIK
STUTTGART.

THE only maker of that name, whose instruments obtained ONE GOLD and TWO SILVER MEDALS with first-class Certificates, proving the superiority of their Pianos over all others exhibited.

We would caution intending purchasers, not to confound the name with that of SCHIEDMAYER AND SOEHNE.

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PERFECT PEBBLE SPECTACLES.

THOROUGHLY adapted to correct the various faults of refraction of defective Eyes.
May be had from
LAWRENCE AND MAYO,
OPHTHALMIC OPTICIANS,
Opticians to the principal Ophthalmic Surgeons in India,
London, Calcutta and Bombay.
Our pamphlet: "Ignorance the Cause of Numerous Eye-Diseases," price post-paid 4½ annas.
PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

DESIRABLE and NECESSARY as it undoubtedly is to provide the relief required by a *hypermetropic* eye in life, it is even more essential in *myopia*, because the latter is essentially a progressive defect, and the tension of convergence which the unaided eyes are obliged to exert, in order to maintain binocular vision at the distance demanded by the anomaly of refraction, accelerates that down ward progress greatly. Without glasses the myopic child grows up deprived of a wide field of instructive observation, though in that respect his eyes do not themselves suffer; but what is of paramount importance in his case is to relieve the strain on the convergence, by making him always use suitable concave glasses for reading and writing, so that the work may be placed at a distance of at least twelve inches from the eyes. Myopia is generally hereditary, so that myopic parents ought to have that reason suspect it in their children, and cannot do, other than to take them to an oculist while they are young. We would offer the same advice on the first appearance of a disposition to squint, which will generally indicate the existence of hypermetropia.
MORDAN'S EXACTFIT PERBLE SPECTACLES are as their name imports, the most scientifically designed and perfectly constructed of all.
Only the PUREST and HARDEST Brazilian pebble is used and being cut on Dr. MENIST'S approved principle, at right angles to the axis of the crystal, the frames entirely free from prismatic fracture, whilst perfect finish, of the very best materials and the [illegible] made, to meet the special modifications in form he [illegible] are designed to correct various defects of vision, [illegible] from, his wide practical experience in the subject, [illegible] extra cost will be found to be more than fully [illegible] derived from their use.
First Class Certificate and Silver Medal, the Highest Award for Excellence, Calcutta Exhibition, 1883-84.

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TREATS cases of accidents and injuries scientifically as well as according to the approved native system.

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This is the universal opinion of everybody who has tried DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS and LIVER PILLS, for bilious and liver complaints, indigestion, wind, nausea, foul breath, nervous depression, irritability, lassitude, loss of appetite, dyspepsia, heartburn, giddiness, dimness of the eyes, &c., being as mild but tonic in their action as they are certain in their curative effects. Prepared by W. LAMBERT, London, England. In bottles ONLY, 1s. 1½d. The genuine are in green envelope, with "WILLIAM LAMBERT" on the Government Stamp. Insist on having those and none other.
AGENTS WANTED.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.

EUROPE.

BIRTH.

DAVIDSON—November 19, at the Dingle, Sydenham Hill London, S. E., the wife of D. C. Davidson, Indian Medical Service, Bombay, of a daughter.

DEATH.

ALLAN—December 21, at Maiden Villa, Crawford Rd, Edinburgh, James Allan Esq. late of the firm of Messrs Mackintosh Burn and Co, aged 64. (By telegram.)

BAGHDAD.

DEATH.

BUTTERWORTH—December 7, at Baghdad, Reginald Francis, dearly beloved son of Caroline and Thomas Henry Butterworth, R. M. Indian Marine, aged 6 months and 20 days.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTH.

CLARK—December 22, at Dakka, the wife of Ian Dalrymple Clark, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

FROST—ROOPE—December 22, at the Memorial Church, Cawnpore, Captain G A Frost, Royal Artillery, only son of the Revd G Frost, LL.D, of Kensington, to Mary, daughter of the late Lavington Roope, Esq. of Hobart, Tasmania.

The Bombay Gazette

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1887.

LORD HARTINGTON, having taken counsel with Mr. Chamberlain as to the best means of promoting the interests of the Conservatives, has decided that that object can be most easily attained by remaining outside the Cabinet. He has found his example in the gentleman who, though he never went to church, proclaimed himself to be a buttress of that ancient fabric because he supported it from the outside. He will not be a pillar of the Conservative Government, but he will be one of its buttresses, and Mr. Chamberlain, presumably, will be another. It is a fact of architectural experience, however, that buttresses sometimes press inwards, working havoc with the tottering structure that they are intended to support. We may not have long to wait for illustration of the close analogy that there is between architectural and political dynamics. Meantime we ourselves shall not appear to be wise merely after the fact, if we say that Lord Hartington's refusal to enter the Cabinet is only what might have been expected. We indicated days ago the obstacles to his assumption of official responsibility of any kind in the present state of parties and in the present state of politics, and the issue has shown that our forecast was not wrong. How great the difficulties of the Conservatives are may be inferred from the movement which has set in amongst the party to persuade Lord Randolph Churchill to return to the traces from which he has so incontinently broken loose. This of course will never do, so long as a method of closing a split by the opening up of a chasm remains to be discovered. The Conservative revolt against Lord Randolph wss serious enough before his resignation; his resignation has made him an impossible person, even when his party are so hard pressed as to be meditating the proclamation of Mr. W. H. Smith as leader of the House of Commons. Their choice at least lies between Mr. Smith and Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, that is to say, between six and half a dozen—and a very poor half dozen, too. It is almost easier to conceive Sir Michael Hicks-Beach triumphing over discontent in Ireland than leading the House of Commons while Lord Randolph Churchill is below the gangway. Mr. Smith would get still less consideration from his former colleague who is good enough to speak of him sometimes as the "Marshall" of a Parliamentary firm, the "Snelgrove" in which has lately been promoted to the Upper House, and is occasionally to be seen at the India Office.

IT is a good thing that our Asiatic Society in Bombay has published an index of it seventeen volumes of Journals, and of the three volumes of the Transactions of the Literary Society out of which it originally sprang [illegible] was contain a large [illegible] of valuable matter, and to search for information on any particular point through a large number of unindexed volumes is almost as hopeless a task as looking for a needle in a haystack. If you possess the volumes the information you require may be implicity in your possession printed in black and white; but unless you have the clue by which to find it, that information is of no more use to you than the precious pearl she swallowed was to Cleopatra, or than the happy thought that won't come at the moment it is wanted. The hidden information resembles in another particular the unready happy thought, for it is sure to turn up by chance just when you no longer require it, and are looking for information on some other subjects. Of the immense number of books published now-a-days one can only read through a very small proportion, and it is therefore the more necessary that all books, and especially all sets of volumes, should be thoroughly indexed, in order that we may be able to make use of the information contained in books that we have not time to read. Nobody, roughly speaking, has time to read the journals of learned societies, so that they especially require indexing. The Index of the volumes of our Asiatic Society has been done most exhaustively by Mr. Tivarekar, the librarian. There are in fact three indexes provided, first a general index, next an index of proper names, and lastly an index of papers and authors. Also in addition to the Index Mr. Tivarekar gives us an interesting historical sketch of the Society from its origin up to the present time. Sir James Mackintosh, who established in 1804 the Literary Society of Bombay, may be regarded as the founder of the Bombay Asiatic Society. It was he who was elected first president and delivered the inaugural address. In knowledge of the East the author of the *Vindicia Gallicæ* could not stand comparison with Sir William Jones, the great Orientalist, who twenty years before had laid the foundation of the Asiatic Society in Calcutta. However, his legal, historical, and philosophical culture well fitted him to sketch out in his inaugural address what learned Europe would look for from the studies of Asiatic Societies in India. "In the observations which I shall make on the plan and subject of our inquiries, I shall," he said, "offer myself to you only as the representative of the curiosity of Europe. I am ambitious of no higher office than that of faithfully conveying to India the desires and wants of the learned at home, and of stating the subjects on which they wish and expect satisfaction from inquiries which can be pursued only in India." Accordingly the inaugural address contains a masterly sketch of the wide range of moral and physical inquiries that the Bombay Asiatic Society might be expected to undertake with good effect. The Society was called the Literary Society of Bombay for twenty-three years, and as the result of its labours during that period we have three volumes of Transactions first published in 1819, and since republished with notes by the Hon. V. N. Mandlik. In 1827 the Society changed its title and became the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. From that date until 1841 no journal was published in Bombay. All literary contributions were sent to England to be published by the parent Society. In 1841 it was determined to publish a quarterly journal in Bombay, which quarterly journal presently gave place to the yearly journal still published. Since 1841 seventeen volumes have been published, which when added to the three volumes of Transactions of the Literary Society makes up the respectable total of twenty volumes, containing in a permanent form the labours of the Society since its institution in the beginning of the century. Among the contributors will be found the names of several natives of India, who have given the Society the benefit of their detailed knowledge of Indian manners, customs, and languages. In fact one of the chief merits of the Society is that it unites together natives and Europeans in friendly intercourse. This was early contemplated, as Mr. Tivarekar shows by quoting a letter addressed in 1827, by Sir John Malcolm, as President of the Society, to the Honourable Mountstuart Elphinstone. In this letter Sir John Malcolm remarks that the education of the natives of India in Government institutions "cannot but lead to that happy association between them and their European fellow-subjects, which will essentially aid and facilitate the future labours and researches of the Literary Society of Bombay." In spite of this anticipation Mr. Manekji Cursetji, the first native candidate for membership, though supported by the President, Colonel Vans Kennedy, was rejected in the year 1833, no fewer than fourteen black balls being thrown into the ballot box against him. However in 1840 Mr. Manekji Cursetji, who had in the meantime been elected a member of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, could not well be refused admittance to the Branch Society in Bombay. He was the first native member, and since then so many have been elected that at present nearly one-third of the members are natives. The Society seems always to have been well supplied with funds. The chief source of revenue is of course the subscription of the members, [illegible] was raised in 1811 to Rs. 100 [illegible] finally fixed in 1874 at Rs. 75 [illegible] present rate. At an early period of [illegible] history the Society got a substantial addition to its funds through the instrumentality of a lottery sanctioned by Government, an efficacious means of raising money too immoral in its tendencies to be sanctioned by this very virtuous age. Since 1864 a monthly grant of Rs. 300 was granted by Government to help the Society to carry out its higher objects and prevent the possibility of its degenerating into a mere circulating library. An additional grant of Rs. 50 given to the Geographical Society was transferred to the Asiatic, when the two were amalgamated. Thus well supplied with funds the Society has been able to gather together a library consisting of about 60,000 volumes, such as has no equal in the British possessions in the East. At least we have it on Dr. Wilson's authority that Principal Mill, late of Bishop's College, "after a close survey of it and a careful inspection of its catalogue, remarked 'we have got nothing like this in the City of Palaces—nothing like this on the banks of the Ganges.'" Since the time of Dr. Wilson and Principal Mill the library has largely increased. "The rooms which were found to be ample then have" we are told "for years past proved insufficient, owing to the increasing stock of books, publications, and antiquities. The Society is now hampered for want of accommodation, and its bookpresses in several classes of literature have already been filled with books two and three rows deep in the same shelf. In the course of a few years more, there will be extreme difficulty in finding space for the large additions that are annually accruing to the library in all branches of literature." Indeed this pleasing *embarras de richesses* seems to be the only evil from which the Society is suffering. Many new members have joined during the last few years, and it succeeds in more than holding its own in competition with other circulating libraries, while it does not neglect the Oriental studies, the prosecution of which were its original *raison d'être*.

THE reports which represent the Calcutta Congress as having simply re-affirmed the resolution of the Bombay Congress in regard to the reform and expansion of the Legislative Councils are somewhat confusing. The resolution actually arrived at at Calcutta is in some essential particulars different from that passed last year, and we should find it extremely difficult to go as near to approbation in the one case as we have been able to do in the other. Last year the Congress contented itself with asking for the admission of "a considerable proportion of elected members." Whether or not, as reports which appear to have originated with the managers of the Congress represent, this was reaffirmed, it is certain that the Congress have since passed a resolution which goes much farther than a request for the admission of a "considerable proportion" of elected members. The Congress now ask—unless we misread a report which, thanks to the secrecy in which the deliberations are conducted is certainly a little obscure—that [illegible] less than one-third [illegible] Members of the reformed Councils, Provincial and Supreme, shall be elected; that not more than a fourth of the members shall be official, and that not more than a fourth shall be nominated by Government. If the Congress have so resolved they have made a serious mistake. No serious politician who has looked favourably upon the movement for a reform of the Legislative Councils has ever done so with the thought of making them, in any sense of the word understood in Europe, representative institutions. As soon as it is asked that the majority of their members shall be elected the request resolves itself into one for the establishment of representative government in a society essentially unfitted for it. The movement will fail if those who are engaged in it forget that India must, in its present state at all events, be governed by the Government, and not by any shifting majority of untrained politicians whom imperfectly informed coteries of the population may send to Calcutta and Bombay and Madras. When the Government are asked to associate with them in their task a larger number of unofficial councillors capable of advising them as to the necessities of the country it is one thing. When they are asked suddenly to put the controlling power in the hands of a body of representatives who have this week, in distrusting their own capacity for deliberating in public, given other people reason for distrusting their capacity for self-government, there is only one answer that they can give. We hope, however, that there has been some mistake, and that the Congress has not stultified itself by rudely departing from the eminently reasonable demand which it made at Bombay. By asking for extravagantly much they will be in danger of obtaining inordinately little, and it is to the interest neither of Government nor of the people that the constitution of the Legislative Councils should much longer remain unreformed.

MR. STEEL, the Principal of the Veterinary College, Parel, calls attention in another column to a subject of no small interest to the owners of horses in Bombay. There have recently been brought to the Bai Sakarbai Hospital for Animals, he says, four cases of glanders, besides several cases which look suspiciously like farcy. It is not a necessary inference from this fact that there is an epidemic of glanders in the city; but it is evident that certain conditions exist here which, unless careful measures are taken might at any time lead to [illegible] a consummation [illegible] to be desirable. The police, for instance, have taken to the hospital animals found straying on the Flats and at Worleg in which some of the symptoms of this equine pestilence were clearly marked. A more effectual means of propagating infection could scarcely be chosen than turning diseased horses upon the roads and allowing them, as some seem to have done, to wander at their will. There is reason to believe that it is not mere carelessness which has thus thrown the seeds of infection by the roadside. A morbid regard for the sanctity of animal life hinders horse-owners of certain castes and creeds from putting an end to life which can be prolonged in a state of disease only at the risk of disseminating disease and death amongst healthy animals. Convictions of this kind can be respected so long as they do not operate to the public detriment; when however the religious convictions of the Jain or the Brahmin in regard to the life of a diseased horse can be given effect to only at the risk of propagating disease amongst his neighbour's healthy cattle it becomes costly and inconvenient to respect them. The roadside certainly is not the place in which an animal suffering from glanders is to be allowed to spend his last days; and those who shrink from taking his life must either allow others to do so, or they must themselves provide an institution in which the incurably infectious may end their days in isolation. An isolated Pinjrapole is needed if the authorities are not to be empowered—as we believe they are empowered—to slaughter animals suffering from dangerously infectious diseases. Bombay is the last town in India in which we can afford to be indifferent to such an evil as that to which Mr. Steel has so timely called attention. The extensive remount operations, and the large importations of horses from the Gulf and elsewhere, make this a very serious matter indeed, and the Principal of the Veterinary College has done a public service in giving warning on the subject.

THE Anthropological Society of Bombay has brought out the first number of the journal transactions. The Society is still some months short of a year old and it has already over three hundred members—a result upon which the energetic and enthusiastic founder may fairly be congratulated. In laying down a programme of operations at the inaugural meeting, [illegible] April Mr. Tyrrell Leith indicated a wide field of research, and it is to be hoped that with so large a band of co-operators there will be no difficulty in carrying it out. The transactions indeed already comprise a record of very valuable work, one characteristic of which is its originality. Mr. Tyrrell Leith's own contribution to the volume is a paper on "Divination by Hazirat among the Indian Mussulmans," the result in great part of personal observation. There are papers also on the "Hairy Man of Burma," on "Indian Necromancy," by Dr. Dymock; on "Sacrifice in India as a means of averting epidemics," by Dr. Weir; on "Embalming in Ancient India," and on "Nisi, the Night Demon," by Mr. Kedarnath Basu; and on the "Ghosis, or Gaddi Gaolis of the Deccan," by Colonel Gunthorpe. The Society is evidently doing the right work in the right way, and it bids fair to become one of the most useful of our local institutions.

THERE is no reason to doubt the correctness of the report which has appeared in a Calcutta paper that the Rev. Father Kerr, S.J., who has been nominated to the Archiepiscopic of Bombay in the new Hierarchy, is unable, because of ill-health, to undertake the appointment. The climate of India never agreed with Father Kerr, and he suffered seriously in health during his previous residence in this country.

THE NEW CAMPAIGN IN BURMA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MANDALAY, DEC. 20.

THE coming of the cold season and the arrival of the Commander-in-Chief of India have put new vigour and activity into all the troops, and now almost every day we hear of captures or surrenders of dacoit bohs, or their followers. The collection of arms goes on equally steadily, and districts till late most unsafe and disturbed are quieting down, and the people regaining confidence. Colonel Heyland and his fifty lancers, charging into the midst of 700 dacoits and laying 200 of them low, will be a tale of alarm to be told in every dacoit gang through the country, and the bold lancers are not likely to catch so numerous body again.

More recent repressive measures in Myingyan district and about Wundwin are said to have had a splendid effect, and the burning of Moungwet and Sangyoung villages will show that the lawless can expect nothing but severity hereafter

Hla Oo's condition has become pitiable. He is now a homeless wanderer with but a handful of followers, and every day his death or capture is expected. He has been mercilessly cruel, and can expect no help or mercy from the country people when he is no longer to be feared. His hiding places one after another have been discovered, and his adherents have melted away, or even given their services to the columns in pursuit, so that crafty as he may be he must be run to earth soon. A price is on his head, so that he can hardly make his way in and give himself up freely. One can understand why the whole country from Sagaing and Shwebo should be regaining peace and prosperity.

Boh Shwe, of the Minbu district, is a man of far different stamp; so far as we know he has not been guilty of cruelty or torture, but has fairly fought us, and with no small ability too. Many military men speak highly in praise of his boldness and resource, and hope he may surrender and be thereupon commissioned as "Dacoit Catcher-in-Chief," which office if made worth his while to accept, he would doubtless execute with vigorous ability. General Low's late march and re-occupation of Napoh without casualties indicates pretty well that Boh Shwe finds himself over-matched, but if the brave old lion will not come in, he must be hunted still.

The death of Prince Moung Hmat and his brother must have taken the heart out of all opposition to our rule.

The affair at Bhamo last month, though somewhat disgraceful to our discipline, was never a very serious matter—the numbers engaged were so small and the feelings of the people so mixed. Of course, Chinese and Burmans could never really unite for a common purpose long. Burmese authority has never been very efficient at Bhamo and beyond to the north. Mogoung has had its civil officer appointed, but it is to be hoped for his health's sake that he will be allowed to remain some time in Bhamo before going further, or to return to that city if he finds his station as unhealthy as Burmans predict. Mr. Soppitt, late in charge of Madaya, is the officer selected. Success and health be with him.

Kyonksay, which used to be in continual excitement owing to the proximity of the Myinsaing Prince, has of late become quite quiet, and when the railway works get extended so far everything will be as happy as can be.

We know less about the inland districts of Yemethen and Ningyan, but our last reports are all good. The Lay Woon in the last extremity, Kemendine Mintha quiet, Budha Raza a fugitive, so that a few more weeks should restore peace there also.

More unknown still, and therefore a greater object of interest at present, is the Ruby Mines district. The troops have advanced to Sagadoung with very little real resistance, and have now got into the hills. Here, if anywhere, an effective resistance can be made. There are not wanting many who blame the policy of Government in bringing on this Ruby Mines campaign now. Nothing would have been lost, but perhaps a few thousands of revenue by letting disposal of the question stand over a year or two; and the selling of Government rights to a private firm, before it was ascertained what those rights were, seemed hardly a dignified business transaction. Our Government is just if not always generous, and may find itself obliged to back out of part of its bargain. The following is a summary of native information on the subject of the Ruby Mines and Trade:—

The district in which rubies are found lies to the north-east of Mandalay, and the chief centres of the trade are Mogok, Kyatpyin and Ka-the. The order shows their relative importance, Mogok being first and chief. Each district had its own lessee or proprietor, and these men claim hereditary rights. It seems to be quite true that the old king of Burma allowed one family in each district to control the working of the mines, and Theebaw selected men out of the same families when vacancies occurred. All he cared for was the ruby revenue. The families in charge had very extensive powers, and no one could work in their districts without their permission. A governor of the whole country was appointed by the king, but he was probably well-paid by the hereditary lessees, and his rule was merely nominal. To show how little real supervision Government had in Theebaw's time it is sufficient to say that during the whole of his reign no "Royal Rubies," i.e., of value Rs. 1,000 and over were [illegible] to the Treasury; and beyond the payment of Rs. 2,50,000 per annum, either at the Mines, or at the Ruby Hall, Mandalay, in the shape of duty, Theebaw's Government made no further claim than the absolute right to the finer rubies as stated above.

The lessees appointed their own head men, one over each mine, and thirteen houses were assigned to each, to provide the workers. A house tax, vary ing from Rs. 2 to Rs. 50 per mensem, according to the number of workers, was paid to the head men who then allowed the miners to keep rubies of small value for themselves. There was a system of sub-letting mines to men of substantial property, but they were bound to draw working allowances from the lessees and pay 30 per cent. per mensem on the loans. No cultivation was carried on at the mines, so that food often ran up to fabulous prices. Rice, instead of Rs. 3 per basket, would at times fetch Rs. 40, or that value in rubies, as the traders from Mandalay made it their business to barter for goods rather than pay down in cash.

These ruby merchants had all to be licensed at the Ruby Hall, Mandalay, and before every trip had to make a declaration of the amount they had for trading. They had to pay black mail to Paw Kway, a chief who is still ready for mischief, and on return to Mandalay were marched straight off to the Ruby Hall, where they had to deposit their rubies. This precaution was in addition to the examinations at all guard-houses on the land route from the mines to Khannyat, or other of the stations on the river. Once at Ruby Hall the stones were assorted and arranged in packets and publicly sold. Parcels for Lower Burma or elsewhere had to be specified, and all had to pay duty from Rs. 15 to Rs. 30 per cent., but so far as the lessees were concerned, this duty was part of their yearly contract amount. Rubies of high value were known to have been found in Theebaw's time, but smugglers of high and low degree helped to keep them from the Palace, and it is in the suppression of illicit traffic that the new lessees must expect to make their way pay, adding of course a better system of working.

AN ITALIAN *SAVANT'S* TOUR IN INDIA.—VIII.

BARODA—THE DEWAN—GENERAL WATSON—A DRIVE THROUGH THE CITY—AN INTERVIEW WITH THE GAEKWAR—A VISIT BY BRAHMINS—THE SCHOOLS—MY ROYAL GUIDE AT BARODA.

AT 7 in the morning, on the 27th of October, I arrived at Baroda. A court carriage sent by the Prime Minister, in which was a Brahmin gentleman employed in the Criminal Court, awaited me at the station, and conducted me to a royal bungalow usually occupied by Mr. Tait, director of the High School at Baroda. The bungalow has two floors, and a little garden full of flowers surrounds it, giving access to the public gardens, where there is a menagerie of wild beasts. I asked the Brahmin who did the honours of the house at what hour I could pay my respects to his Excellency the Dewan. He ascertained for me that the Dewan would himself call upon me at a quarter to eleven o'clock, after having arranged with the Resident, General Watson, for my presentation to the Gaekwar. I asked the Brahmin if he spoke Sanskrit. He replied, "a little," and he enumerated at once several books to prove to me that even if he had not read them, he was a learned person who knew all about them. He promised to introduce to me a shastri named Neguta, who spoke Sanskrit, and was particularly acquainted with the grammar. Shortly after I received a visit from a very distinguished and amiable man, Shastri Ganardhan Sakaram Gadgil, a judge of the Supreme Court of Baroda, who prepared for his Doctor's degree in the Elphinstone College. He was sent by the Dewan to ascertain what I particularly desired to see at Baroda. He told me that on the next day he would introduce me to a number of Sanskrit-speaking *pandits*, with whom I could visit the schools. He was greatly pleased at hearing of my love for India, for its learning and its institutions; and he politely observed that my presence amongst the Indians might contribute greatly to awaken in India an [illegible] for scientific research. He observed that certain Brahminical doctrines might be reconciled with Christianity. To this I added that in the different philosophies of the *Upanishad* may be found something that resembled some point in every religion in the world. He seemed impressed with the remark, and asked if I had received any information about the Theosophical Society founded by Col. Olcott and Madame Blavatsky. I replied that I had heard something about it, but that I did not think that the movement was destined to make way; it impaired instead of correcting Buddhism, and it lacked the popular basis which is necessary for constructing any kind of new religion. At eleven o'clock I received a visit from Khan Bahadur Kazi Shahabudin, the Dewan of Baroda and ex-Minister of the Rao of Cutch. He is a man almost of my own age, and has a frank, pleasant and intelligent appearance. He speaks English with purity and in a clear and distinct manner. He is a man of altogether modern ideas and of elegant manners, with a wide experience of men and affairs. We at once got on good terms. In 1873, when he was agent for the Sultan of Zanzibar, he went to Rome on the Sultan's business, and made the acquaintance of King Victor Emmanuel, whom he remembers having warmly urged to visit India. "I would like it very much," said the great king, "but the matter is much more difficult than you can imagine." The Dewan spoke pleasantly also of Prince Humbert and Princess Margaret, now King and Queen of Italy.

The kingdom of Baroda and that of the Nizam are the two most important states in India. But Baroda has a more purely Indian character. In the Nizam's State there is too great a predominance of the Mahomedan element, which aims not only at superiority, but at crushing all indigenous elements. Baroda is a kind of Indian Piedmont, and this was the most agreeable compliment that I was able to pay the Gaekwar when I met him. To return, however, to the Dewan. He spoke to me uninterruptedly and with much frankness. We spoke first about Sanskrit, which I told him I wished to see holding a more honourable place in Indian education. On this subject Shahabudin's ideas are very practical. He observed that the only language which can prevail in the country is that spoken by the conqueror and the legislator; the language of the nation should be always that of the master. At this time the language of the more educated people of India is English, as under the Mogul Emperors it was Urdu. "But Sanskrit," I observed, "might still be a bond of civil fraternity, a sign of recognition amongst patriotic *savants* in India." "Your codes," I reminded him, "on which a part of your native legislation is founded, are written in Sanskrit." "The ancient codes," replied Shahabudin, "are very seldom employed now, and we very rarely have occasion to consult them. If the code is based upon some local customs for maintaining the ancient law. If, on the other hand, the law is derived from obsolete customs, it has no longer any value, because its origin is always found in custom, which is a kind of tacit social compact." The observation seemed to me to be very just, and it is quite in agreement with what I have always thought and written on the subject. Nevertheless, I do not give up the cause of Sanskrit—a sacred and a learned language, which most educated Indians, from Cashmere to Ceylon, from Dacca to Junaghad, have always studied and understood. This language conveys the highest thoughts and conceptions of Indian genius, creates the most poetic types in Indian poetry, prevailing with the greatness of India, and becoming obscured in her ruin. Shahabudin aspires after a rational progress in India—a progressive constitution, and he would be quite content to see in our time a political confederation of the Indian States after the manner of the German. "The presidency of Bombay," he said, "is a great State; Bengal, the Punjab, and the great Gangetic plain of the North, might form three other States. Baroda, Hyderabad, and three or four other important States might enter into a great political confederation. A single national Parliament, composed of the notables of all the States, might provide for general policy, for the army and for the defence of India, if India were ever really menaced. But for what motive should our Indian soldiers go to be killed in the Soudan or in Burma, where, although England may have some interest to defend, we have none at all? If we had a national Parliament we would certainly refuse to vote any credit for wars which are not ours, which are harmful to our country and disastrous for our families. But we would provide with so much the more zeal and tranquillity for internal reforms." I asked Shahabudin why he, being a man in authority, had not made his ideas public in these matters, for the most serious and the most liberal Englishmen like discussion and are influenced by it. "I have written a good deal," he replied, "upon the political reforms to be introduced into India and upon the nomination of native officers in the army. But the time has not yet come to publish it. What I have told you now may very well be repeated, because I have already expressed these ideas several times in public. As for what remains to be said, I must await a more opportune moment for saying it. Believe me, there are very few Englishmen like Sir W. Wedderburn. Those who take a serious interest in the political reform of India may be counted. You will see a good number of judges, and of other pensioned officials, who on their return to England continue to interest themselves in the well-being of India; but they think nothing about creating a political greatness for our country. They content themselves with endeavouring to correct certain prejudices, certain evils in Indian life which really do not concern them very much, and they most frequently direct their endeavours towards vain objects, thinking that they can change in a year a compact social order which has existed in India for thousands of years." I referred to the recent agitation of young India with the object of electing candidates to the English Parliament. Shahabudin explained that it mattered very little to the Indians if members were Liberal or Conservative, English or Irish, provided they were really friends of India, and that they did not allow the central Government to exercise a hurtful control over Indian affairs. Recalling the conversation which I had had with the Collector of Surat upon the repugnance of natives in British India to be incorporated in the State of Baroda, I asked Shahabudin what was the true reason for this repugnance. He confirmed with entire loyalty the words of Mr. Mulock. "They are right," he said "the people as yet know nothing of politics, and have no conception of questions of nationality: but they remember well enough that the old Indian Governments were bad, the princes overtaxed the people and kept the public money to themselves, spending it foolishly, and having no regard for the prosperity of the State. Now things are greatly changed, and England has the great merit of having opened our eyes and of having given us an education. The people are with the Government which they consider is the best. In fifty years, perhaps, they will know how to appreciate the advantages of a national Government. The State of Baroda has for eleven years been continually progressing. The young Gaekwar has a strong will, and works for his State with an intelligent affection for it. I am not saying this to flatter him because he is my prince; but you will see him and judge for yourself." In the evening I returned the Dewan's visit, and had a most cordial reception from him. I took advantage of his good humour to open up the question of direct commercial intercourse between Italy and the State of Baroda. The Dewan seemed well disposed in the matter, and I left him under the impression that the sympathy he had shown for our commerce might some day bear fruit. I then paid a visit to General Watson, the English Resident at Baroda. He is a perfect gentleman, who has passed the greater part of his life in India, which he loves. He was on the point of definitively leaving India for England, with his wife and two daughters, who would regret this—free and poetically wild life which English girls can conduct in India, and which they certainly cannot find in the gilded prisons of the damp metropolis of England.

I drove round the city in the company of my Brahmin guide. The city has the aspect of a great prosperous village. The young Gaekwar is supposed to contemplate its reconstruction, so as to make it one of the handsomest cities in India. But the enterprise will be long and very difficult. However, the new and vast royal residence in the Hindu-Saracenic style, which the native architect Vasudeo Bapuji has built, promises great things. I was astonished at the grandeur of the edifice, at the great number of vestibules and columns, and at the severity of the style. Yet it seemed to me to be heavy and badly built, and notwithstanding its name of Lukhsam Vetas, it certainly has no air of gaiety. While the Gaekwar was out I visited his present palace, which differs very little from the residence of an ordinary noble; and I cannot imagine how in so small a place as this, the previous

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE POLITICAL CRISIS IN LONDON.

LORD HARTINGTON'S DECISION.

LONDON, Dec. 30 Morning.

Lord Hartington arrived in London from Rome last night. His Lordship will confer with Mr. Goschen and Sir Henry James to-day.

It is officially stated that Parliament will meet on the 27th of January.

LONDON, Dec. 30.

The Marquis of Hartington, after conferring with Mr. Chamberlain and other prominent Unionists, has decided to decline the Premiership as well as the leadership of the House of Commons offered to him by the Marquis of Salisbury, as his Lordship believes that he will be more useful to the Conservative Government by remaining outside the Cabinet.

THE LEADERSHIP OF THE COMMONS.

LONDON, Dec. 31.

Efforts are being made by the Conservative party to induce Sir Michael Hicks-Beach to undertake the leadership of the House of Commons. In the event of Sir Michael refusing to do so, it is probable that Mr. W. H. Smith, Secretary of State for War, will be asked to accept the same.

A certain section of the Conservatives are working with the view of persuading Lord Randolph Churchill to return to his post in the Ministry.

The Marquis of Hartington confers with the Marquis of Salisbury to-day.

THE RENT WAR IN IRELAND.

In pursuance of the judgment delivered by the Queen's Bench, Dublin, on the 15th instant, Mr. Dillon has furnished the bail required for his good behaviour, but he has given notice of appeal against the decision of the Judges.

The trial of Messrs Dillon, O'Brien, Harris, Sheehy, Redmond and Orilly, instituted on the 19th instant for conspiracy, is proceeding at Dublin.

THE BULGARIAN DEPUTATION.

The Bulgarian deputation had an interview with Lord Iddesleigh at the Foreign Office yesterday which was of a most cordial nature. His Lordship declared to the deputation that the candidacy of Prince Nicholas of Mingrelia for the Bulgarian throne was unacceptable to the British Government, but that they were in favour of the Prince of Oldenburg being elected. His Lordship promised to do the utmost compatible with existing Treaties for the Bulgarian nation.

THE MAHDIST LEADER.

CAIRO, Dec. 29.

News has reached here of the death of the Mahdist leader, Khalifa Abdallah, at Khartoum.

RECALL OF GADBAN PASHA.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 30.

Gadban Pasha, the Turkish Commissioner at Sofia, has been recalled.

THE GERMAN ARMY.

BERLIN, Dec. 30.

The German soldiers are being rapidly armed with repeating rifles.

THE DACOITS IN BURMA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MANDALAY, Dec. 30.

General Stewart reports that the Ruby Mines force is still at Tagyouk. The post and stockades are to be garrisoned. When more rations come up, the force will advance. This will probably be the final advance. The climate is feared more than the enemy.

There is no further news of the Wuntho Sawbwah. No advance is to be made till all diplomacy has failed.

Mr. Burgess was at Katha Mahline on the 27th.

Lieutenant Wallace, of the 27th P.I., has reached Toke Byawa's camp. After a feeble resistance the dacoits fled, leaving three dead and a quantity of provisions.

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS AT CALCUTTA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, Dec. 31.

The proceedings of the Congress came to a close yesterday, and most of the Delegates leave Calcutta to-night.

It was decided that the next Congress is to be held at Madras in the cold season of 1887.

Yesterday the resolution on the Legislative Councils elicited a serious conflict of opinion, and the clause excluding the Viceroy and Governors from membership and making the presidents elective was struck out; but in spite of an urgent appeal from the moderate party the rest of the resolution was adopted.

The report of a committee on the Civil Service question was to the effect that examinations should be held simultaneously in India and in England, that the limit of age should be 23, and that appointments should be given in order of merit in the amalgamated list.

Finally it was resolved that committees be appointed in every province to take action with reference to the resolutions which have been passed.

ARMY ORDERS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

POONA, Dec. 31.

In to-day's Army Orders, H. R. H. the Commander-in-Chief is pleased to make the following appointments:—

3rd Bombay Light Infantry—Surgeon W. H. Quicke to officiate in medical charge during the absence of Surgeon Sargent, on furlough, or until further orders.

Captain Henry O'Brien Owen, Artillery, is appointed Adjutant, Artillery, Mhow, *vice* Captain W. F. Cleva, transferred to the Artillery Adjutancy, Presidency District, Calcutta.

Under instructions from Horse Guards, Captain E. Hughes is transferred from the 2nd to the 1st Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers, and will proceed to England at the public expense.

The undermentioned officer is granted leave to England, with the necessary subsidiary leave:—Royal North Lancashire Regiment—Lieutenant C. J. Daniel, one year, on medical certificate.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

THE MAILS.

SUEZ, Dec. 31.

The P. and O. Co.'s s.s. Rosetta, with the outward English mails of the 24th instant, left here for Bombay at 1 a.m. to-day.

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

SUEZ, Dec. 30.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Lamont arrived here yesterday morning.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Macgregor left Suez yesterday afternoon.

ZANZIBAR, Dec. 30.

His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar's steamer Malacca left here to-day for Bombay direct.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL REPORTS.

LONDON, Dec. 30.

The Liverpool Cotton market closed steady. Sales steady.

Good Fair Dhollera	3 15-16
The Manchester market has been quiet.	
4 per cent. Rupee Paper	71⅛
4½ per cents. "	74⅛
3 per cent. Consols for account	100⅛
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan	100¼
4½ per cent. French Rentes	109⅜
Bar Silver	46⅛

The Bank of England returns for the week ending yesterday show the following results:—Total bullion (Issue and Banking Departments), £18,800,000; decrease, £400,000; public deposits, £4,400,000; increase, £400,000; other deposits, £24,100,000; increase £1,800,000; other securities, £23,100,000; increase £2,800,000; notes and gold, £10,100,000; increase £500,000.

The Bank's Reserve is 35 per cent. of the Liabilities.

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORT.

(DECEMBER 31.)

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—*Via* Teheran, perfect. *Via* Turkey perfect. *Via* Suez, perfect.

AUSTRIA OR EUROPE.—*Via* Teheran, perfect. *Via* Turkey, perfect. *Via* Suez, perfect.

AMERICA.—*Via* Brest, perfect. *Via* Valentia, perfect. *Via* Direct Cable, perfect.

AUSTRALIA.—*Via* Penang, perfect *Via* Amoor, perfect.

CHINA.—*Via* Penang, perfect. *Via* Amoor, perfect.

Mauritius mail closes for Mozambique on Tuesday morning, 4th January.

THERMOMETER READINGS.

THURSDAY NIGHT, Dec. 30

10 p.m. ... ... 72°1

FRIDAY, Dec. 31.

2 a.m.	71·4
6 a.m.	74·4
10 a.m.	79·0
2 p.m.	83·3

THE Bombay Tract and Book Society have issued their "Bombay Christian Almanack" for 1887. It is admirably got up in regard to paper, printing, and illustrations, and the literary matter is interesting and useful.

QUARANTINE has been established in Bombay and the Island of Perim against arrivals from Bombay.

LORD REAY has thanked Mr. Cursetjee Hormusjee Madan for the "flattering Persian poem inscribed on card in a very artistic manner," which he forwarded to him on the 22nd inst.

COLONEL WALLACE, R.E., Consulting Engineer, has inspected 120 miles of the Sindh-Sagar Railway, from the crossing of the Chenab to Bhakkar; and has recommended its opening from the 1st of January.

THE Rev. Fathers Huynnan and Usse have been detailed by the Right Rev. the Bishop Vicar Apostolic of Mandalay to administer to the spiritual wants of the troops in Yemethen and Ningyan, respectively; and the Rev. Father Laurent has been detailed to perform religious services in camp at Ye-u, and to visit the military hospitals there.

THE First Prince of Travancore arrived in Madras on Monday evening by the South Indian Railway, from Pondicherry. His Highness was met on the platform by Rajah Sir T. Madhava Row, K.C.S.I., former Dewan of Travancore, and others. The Prince will shortly come on to Bombay.

MOUNG MOON HTAW, a Burmese of distinction has found no difficulty in adapting himself to the altered circumstances of his country. This worthy sometime ago gave orders for an elaborately and skilfully carved ivory chair at a cost of Rs. 4,000, to be presented to ex-King Theebaw. The advent of the British, however, deprived that monarch of his throne, and Moung Moon Htaw therefore very readily decided to present it to the Queen-Empress.

IT is curiously instructive to note the fact that the titular Maharajah Dhuleep Sing's abortive attempt to agitate India has been followed by a repetition of the "Sikhy" prophecy of Guru Govind Sing, which foretells the restoration of the "Khalsa" power in the Punjab. Itinerating religious mendicants (says the Lahore paper) have been busy in impressively repeating it among the Sikh community, generally with the exhortation that the time for the fulfilment of the latter portion of it is drawing very near; and that Dhuleep Sing is in Russia now, and that the Czar has placed at his disposal an army of two lakhs of men with which he will invade India through Afghanistan, and recover his throne and country in the Punjab.

THE president and those members of the Public Service Commission who had not preceded the main body arrived at Allahabad on Wednesday morning by special train. The Commission is now for the first time complete, with the exception of the Raja of Bhinga, absent from ill-health—Rao Bahadur Krishnaji Luckshman Nulkar and Kazi Shahabudin having joined it here. The Commission assembled at 11-30 a.m. and proceeded to examine witnesses.

A TELEGRAM from London to the *Pioneer* declares that there is now no doubt that the Czar shot Count Reutern, his aide-de-camp, as he was reported to have done by the Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle*. Many reports are being circulated to the effect that his Majesty is mentally deranged, and it is even hinted that a Regency is probable.

AMONG the documents registered last year in Assam was one of a somewhat novel character. A Muhammadan, who was given to opium-eating, married; but on the lady's relatives objecting to his evil habits, he entered into this curious compact:—

I do hereby declare that I was in the habit of eating opium which I left off since two years; but as you do not believe me I enter into this agreement, the conditions of which are, that if you see me ever eating opium or get sufficient proof of my doing so, your sister will be at liberty to break off her marriage with me, and I shall relinquish all claim upon her. Unfortunately for the good intentions of this maligned individual, the attempt to turn the Registration Department into an agency for the promotion of teetotal principles was declared to be illegal, and the document was pronounced null and void.

A CASE of general interest to the Sunni members of the Mahomedan community in this part of India has for some time been pending before the Council of Regency, of the Pattiala State. It relates to the care of the shrine of Mujaddid Alif Sani, a saint and writer of repute, who died about three hundred years ago. The shrine is at Sirhind, about thirty miles from the city of Pattiala, and was originally under the management of Mujaddid Alif Sani's direct descendants, whose duties included the performance of the ceremonies of *nis ara* and *fatiha*, and the proper reception of pilgrims and other visitors. About the beginning of the present century, however, the management fell into the hands of one Mir Lalla, who, though a follower of the Mujaddid, belonged to a different family; and, since his death, it has been held by persons collaterally related to him. During their incumbency serious abuses are alleged to have taken place continuing to the present day. The property originally consisted of a large enclosure containing hundreds of graves of the Mujaddid's descendants and followers, with mosques and houses, which had been built for the convenience of visitors. Many of these buildings, and even some of the graves, have been pulled down, their materials sold, the sale-proceeds mis-appropriated by the *mujawirs*, the land attached to the shrine brought under cultivation, and the tomb of the Mujaddid himself neglected. Towards the end of last October, numerous petitions signed by Mahomedans in all parts of these Provinces were presented to the Council of Regency, praying for the assistance of the State authorities in putting the place under proper protection, and vesting the management in a representative committee, upon the principle recognised by the Imperial Government in Act XX. of 1863. The petitioners took the unusual course of employing European counsel to represent them before the Council, the probable explanation being the influence apparently enjoyed by the present *mujawirs* in high places at Pattiala. The State Government is principally Sikh in composition, and the Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary are Mahomedans of the Shiah persuasion; but the administration (says an up-country paper) has long borne a high character for enlightenment, and, now that the matter has formally been brought to its notice, is not likely to countenance so serious a public scandal, which, moreover, affects the religious feelings and interests of many who are not subject to its jurisdiction.

THE navigation of the River Hughli was little impeded last year, although the Nyanam tracks were still low. A good deal of anxiety was, however, caused by the formation of new bars and the shifting of old ones, necessitating constant survey operations. These included the survey of the channels in use from Culpee to Saugor, as well as of the Saugor Roads, and the Gasper Channel to the Bell Buoy. A survey was also made of the river from Calcutta to Chandernagor, and the Deputy Conservator and his staff were employed for some time by Government for a re-survey of the harbour at False Point, which was considerably altered by the cyclone of September, 1885. The cyclone had caused considerable damage to the lighthouse at False Point, but this has since been completely repaired. The light was, however, extinguished for a short time on the night of the 4th of December, 1885, by the breakage of the pin of the lamp valve, and, in consequence, orders have been issued for the immediate lighting of another lamp in case of future accidents. The lighthouse at Saugor was in good order throughout the year, but that at Coniconly is in need of repairs, which are to be done this year. New flashing lights were exhibited from the Eastern Channel Pilot's Bridge, and Mutla light vessels from the 15th of April, but it was proposed to discontinue the burning of blue lights during the south-west monsoon, except in the Eastern Channel. This change was, however, strongly objected to by both the pilots and shipmasters; it was, therefore, decided to continue the blue lights every half hour during the south-west monsoon and very hour during the north-east monsoon at the Eastern Channel and Pilot's Ridge, where certain modifications have been made in the flashes. The survey vessel Clyde was converted into a light vessel to take the place of the Mainward, which was destroyed by fire in February, 1885, at a cost of Rs. 620; and this, with some additional sums for dockyard charges, and the provision of Rs. 80,000 on account of depreciation, made up the total expenditure on account of the port approaches to Rs. 4,94,133.

THE Office of Assistant Commissioner of Police, under Sir Charles Warren, in London, is held by Mr. James Monro, who is still remembered in Bengal as Inspector General of Police and Commissioner of the Presidency Division. He has recently drawn up a report on the History of the Department of the Metropolitan Police known as the Convicts' Supervision Office, of the existence of which very few people are aware. According to our ordinary Indian official nomenclature, the supervision of convicts would seem to come under the province of the Inspector-General of Jails. But in England it is not so. The convicts who come under the charge of the London police are the individuals who have been discharged from jail, either at the end of their sentences, or under special conditions in their favour. The chief object and aim of the Convicts' Supervision Office, which is under Mr. Monro's control, is to protect and relieve these persons, and to enable them, if they are so inclined, to earn an honest livelihood and unostentatiously to re-establish themselves in some social position. There is in England a Royal Society for the assistance of discharged prisoners, and after much abortive legislation, which Mr. Monro describes, the police are now authorised to act in co-operation with this Royal and other voluntary societies for the relief of prisoners. This system has only been in force since 1879, and it is satisfactory to find that it has been carried out to the great benefit of all concerned.

THE University of New Zealand has been adopted as an institution affiliated to the University of Cambridge. Graduates of the University of New Zealand, who have satisfied the examiners in one language in addition to Latin and English, either in the Matriculation examination or in the examination for the degree of B. A. or B. Sc. of that University, or in some examination held by the University of Cambridge, will consequently be entitled to be admitted to the privileges of affiliation.

THE Ceylon Government propose, we learn, to accept the plans of the War Office for the defences of Colombo. The estimated cost is £24,000, which is to be spread over two years.

THE STORMING OF GHAT COOPER.

BEFORE cockcrow yesterday morning some three hundred members of the Bombay Rifle Volunteers had left the city to engage in deadly strife upon the battlefield beyond the happy hunting grounds of the vultures at Coorla. This year's field-day was exceptionally well-planned, and the large muster enabled the operations to be fully carried out. The corps has always warmly welcomed the opportunity of breaking the daily round of the drill season and the monotony of the parade ground and those responsible for organising yesterday's outing must have felt amply repaid by the large muster of officers and men who took advantage of the occasion, and the ardour and intelligence displayed in the course of the manœuvres. An early start was necessary for a hard day's work was before the Corps. Before five o'clock the first detachment was despatched from the Bori Bunder Terminus, and on the arrival of the special train at Byculla as many more men were found martialled on the platform. When Coorla was reached, where half the Corps was detrained, there were the first signs of daybreak. Discarding overcoats and wrappers, the men fortified themselves against the keenness of the morning air by demolishing the *chota hazri* provided at the station, and started along the road for the scene of action animated by copious libations of steaming hot coffee and by

"That stern joy which warriors feel
At foemen worthy of their steel."

Four miles further on at Ghat Cooper, where the remainder of the Corps left the train, similar provision was found, and the men having filled themselves with biscuit and tea and their pouches with blank cartridge, took up their position in the vicinity of the Thana Road to await the onslaught. The field of operations was that area enclosed on the east by the line over which the Corps had been travelling, on the west by the Coorla and Vehar road, and on the north by a line drawn from the base of the hill adjoining Old Cross Hill to the west side of that on which the umpires were stationed, immediately fronting the cross-roads. The general idea of the operations was that of forces advancing respectively from the north and south and coming in contact at the bend of the Thana Road at the foot of Cross Hill. The southern force finding it impracticable to force the passage of the road, where it was commanded by Cross Hill and the village of Old Coorla, were to outflank the northern force, and for that purpose to detach a small body from its left with orders to force the pass beyond Cross Hill. The northern force, finding itself in danger of being outflanked, had then to retire and take up the narrower position running west of the railway at Ghat Cooper station, ostensibly to wait the arrival of reinforcements. Originally it was intended that the northern force should be composed mainly of the Poona detachment, leaving to their comrades of Bombay the honour of delivering the attack. The "lack of pence which vexes public men" unfortunately necessitated the abandonment of this idea, the transport of the Poona detachment to the Ghat Cooper station involving a considerable outlay. A redistribution of the forces accordingly took place. A, B and C companies and S and si companies of cadets composed the northern or defending force under Major Wyer, while D, E and F companies and the remainder of the cadets—I and N companies—were under the command of Captain Hodgkinson, the Adjutant of the Corps, the leader of the southern force. Colonel the Hon'ble L. H. Bayley, commanding the Corps, and Major Hore acted as umpires, and the following officers accompanied the several companies:—Captains Baird, Brown, Roughton Freeborn and Little; Lieutenants Lund, T. M. English, F. W. English, Place, Jeffries, Brewin and Cornforth. By seven o'clock the signallers of the northern force, who had overnight advantageously posted themselves on the summit of the Cross Hill, were able to discern the enemy's presence in the vicinity of old Coorla, and immediately conveyed the intelligence to the main body to which they belonged. Major Wyer had placed the cadets on the portion it was decided ultimately to defend, a slope gradually rising towards the high hill crowned by the umpires' flag, doubly fringed with the thorniest of cactus hedges, and approached from the front only across a wide expanse of open paddy fields. C Company, under Color Sergeant George, had been detached to defend the pass between the hills. D Company, under Lieutenant T. M. English, were posted on the left of the road, and the main body, consisting of A Company under Captain Brown—who was also acting Adjutant to the northern force—had advanced in the direction of Old Coorla. The forces not only shared between them the signalling party of D Company, but practically divided the members of the Mounted Company, for, although only Sergeant Cuffe and four troopers were allotted to act with the northern force, the muster was so poor that the remainder of Captain Little's Company were represented by eight men. Small as his following was, the troopers played a prominent part in the day's proceedings, and accomplished some very pretty manœuvring, leading on ahead of the southern force, Captain Little, with Sergeant-Major Still, the indefatigable instructor of the troopers, and eight or nine men, first made a feint in the neighborhood of the pass, and having succeeded in thus diverting the attention of the enemy, circled round and rode full pelt across country in an endeavour to outflank them from the opposite direction. This feint at the pass was followed up by a second made under the direction of Lieutenant Lund, who crept through the wood with some thirty rifles. The troopers on outpost duty at this spot dismounted, and, leaving their horses in charge of one of their number, entered the wood. Some brisk firing took place, on the discovery of the enemy's riflemen, followed by the re-appearance of Sergeant Cuffe's party, their resaddling and retirement beyond the lines holding the gap for the northern force. A stronger body of men under Lieutenant Brewin had in the meantime advanced along the centre, this movement being also made with intent to deceive. The main attack was delivered by E Company under Captain Roughton, acting Adjutant to the Southerners, the cadets being held as a reserve. The combined movements were admirably timed, and presented a widely extended front over the line of advance. Gradually the defenders of Ghat Cooper fell back, preserving excellent order and keeping their firing control; indeed, the volley-firing an both sides was well under a marked contrast to the reckless burning of powder too frequently associated with similar mimic warfare. C Company" stayed too long at their post, and had to beat a hasty retreat under a series of rattling volleys, their opponents electing rather to shoot them down than cut off their junction with the rest of the force. By the time the southern force approached Ghat Cooper, its holders were safely sheltered behind cactus barricades and hedges, or ensconced in the buildings by the roadside, commanding, from the ridge they occupied, the whole of the open fields beneath. The assailants had again recourse to strategy on reaching the trees at the foot of Cross Hill. Here dividing the force, half of E Company was pushed forward on the left under the Sergeant-Major, the other half were sent straight ahead, and Captain Roughton, taking the cadets with him, moved up in support of Captain Little. The troopers having galloped, along the railway and through the village, were so far successful that a dozen rounds apiece had been poured into its defenders before they awoke to the fact that their flank was endangered. Captain Roughton and his little warriors arrived most opportunely, as the troopers were falling back, but the latter had no opportunity to reap the full reward of their dashing enterprise, as the forces had now approached at such close quarters that "cease fire" was sounded from the front. The engagement had lasted upwards of half an hour, and the corps had been upon the ground for nearly two hours. The combatants having fraternised, the companies were marched off to the bungalow kindly placed at the disposal of the corps by Mrs. Danbhai Dhunjibhai Khawaji. In the shady grounds the soldiers soon made havoc with the capital breakfast Mr. Soundy, the Quartermaster, had provided with such true appreciation of the requirements of a hungry regiment.

Colonel Bayley, in announcing the decision of the umpires, congratulated the Corps upon the extremely good turn-out. The morning's parade was the largest they had ever had without the presence of the Poona detachment. (Cheers.) The Corps had had, for the first time, the assistance of telegraph signallers, and he was informed by those who had had a better opportunity than himself of observing their operations that they had done remarkably well. There were nearly a score of signallers out that morning, and they formed a valuable auxiliary to the Corps. (Cheers.) The Mounted Corps too, he was happy to say, had not been all taken prisoners as was the case last year. (Laughter.) On the contrary, Captain Little's troopers not only discovered the enemy on the extreme right, but eventually circling round to the rear did very good service in dismounting and pouring in an almost deadly fire on the northern force. Under their able captain and officers and their extremely efficient and energetic Sergeant-Major Still, he had no doubt that the mounted company would fulfil the highest expectations if ever called upon. The duties of umpire, Colonel Bayley continued, were somewhat lightened by the assistance afforded by the "Field Exercise Book," which laid down that:—"If Infantry are judiciously posted in a strong position, but without more cover than is afforded by the accidents of the ground, they cannot be dislodged by a front attack by a less force than two to one. If Infantry are posted behind a shelter trench, bank, or other equivalent cover, suitably disposed, they cannot be dislodged by a less force than three to one. If these attacks are not preceded by Artillery fire, the proportion of attackers to defenders must be increased to three to one and four to one respectively." Now, resumed Colonel Bayley, as being force were not in the requisite proportion of four to one as compared with the defending force, it was quite evident that without superhuman exertion it would have been utterly impossible to have carried the well-secured and admirably lined defensive position occupied by the northern force. That position rested behind long cactus hedges, and was so situated as to be almost impregnable. It was, besides, approached by a good deal of open ground, over which the attacking force had to advance; and remembering the good shooting of the Bombay Volunteers (laughter and cheers), this would have meant certain death to a very large number of the assailants. Under these circumstances, the umpires ruled that the position was not taken, and that its defenders were not dislodged. (Cheers.)

At noon the corps having marched to the station headed by the band, re-entered the carriages and made their return journey in the highest spirits. The following was the field state:—

Distribution.	Field Officers.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Staff Sergts.	Sergeants.	Buglers.	Rank & File.	Total.
A. Company.	1	1	1	...	2	2	29	36
B. "	...	1	1	...	1	...	20	23
C. "	1	1	1	...	2	...	20	25
D. "	...	...	1	3	3	...	22	29
E. "	1	1	1	2	1	2	29	36
F. "	...	1	...	...	2	...	20	23
A. Mounted Troop	...	1	...	1	2	...	17	21
I. Cadets	...	...	...	...	2	...	21	24
K. Cadets	...	...	...	...	2	...	24	26
M. Cadets	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	12
N. Cadets	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	12
Staff & Band.	...	1	...	1	1	...	26	29
Army Staff.	...	1	...	2	...	...	5	8
Total ...	3	7	7	7	19	4	257	304

THE PARSEES AND THE SHAH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—Our representative in Bombay, Haji Mirza Husein Kuli Khan, will, I fancy, if he continues to act as protector of the Parsees, be of little use to the Persian subjects residing in Bombay. The Bombay papers reach me by a roundabout way, and I have only now received your *Budget* of the 5th and 12th November. In the one I read something about the celebration of the Shah of Persia's birthday at our Consul's house in Chinchpooghly; in the other, your remarks thereon. Your remarks are perfectly just. No one here can make out what our Consul is driving at. If the Parsees of Bombay are simple enough to believe his protestations of friendship, well and good. But why mix the Shah's name up with them? In the address which was read by Mr. Cowasjee Cursetjee Jamsetjee reference is made to "those gracious messages which his Imperial Majesty the Shah has repeatedly condescended to send" to the Parsees of Bombay. We have thought those gracious messages must have been evolved out of the Consul's imagination. We understood the Parsees of Bombay cleverer than they have shown themselves to be. Why, even the Parsees of Persia, although they "simply follow agricultural pursuits" (Mr. Cama's speech) would not believe such statements. Does Mr. Cama really believe what he said, or was he humbugging our Consul? Why was there only a sprinkling of Mahomedans present at the Consul's parties on the 2nd and 3rd of November? It looks as if our Consul altogether neglected the Persian subjects in favour of the Parsees. Or is it that the Persian subjects neglected him? I can fancy the Shah's smile when reading in the address his new title, "Ruler of the Parsees' Fatherland." The Parsees of Bombay, it is true, are a Persian race, but they severed their connection with Persia 1,200 years ago. Fancy the Mongholian nomad tribes of Persia and Afghanistan sending an address to the Emperor of China and calling him Ruler of their Fatherland! Mr. Cama in his speech referred to the Parsees "taking a share in the political and military affairs in Persia." Some enterprising Parsees having ingeniously inserted in the birthday address a delicate hint that they would not mind taking service under the Shah. Considering that the Bombay Parsees are British subjects and, as they would wish us to believe, staunch ones, I cannot see how they can share in political and military careers in Persia. The Parsees are, perhaps, born diplomats, but our Foreign Office would hardly employ foreigners, and to think of a Parsee as a military man is ridiculous. Why, even Mr. Dosabhoy in his book on Parsees, can only point out one Parsee who ever fired off a gun, and it is a matter of history that not a single Parsee came forward to enrol himself in the Volunteer corps formed at Bombay during the great Mutiny of 30 years ago. Parsees—soldiers, mashallah!

Other Parsees, you say, expect honorific marks of the Shah's favour; decorations, I suppose, you mean. The Consul apparently has a stock of decorations and firmans with him. They wrote to me from Bombay about a year ago that he gave one to the captain of one of the steamers plying between that port and Bushire, because the captain commanded the ship which took the Consul to Bombay. That was a good reason. Does the captain feel proud of his mark of the Shah's favour? Some European singers who lately came to Teheran were all decorated.

Kindly excuse the length of this letter. I have travelled in Europe, and, although a priest, admire many of the European institutions. I am not pleased with the doings of our representative in Bombay.—I am, &c.,

MUHAMMAD BAGHER SHUSHTERI,
Bagdad, Dec. 10. Mutawalli.

THE COUNTESS OF DUFFERIN'S FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—Will you allow me, through the columns of your paper, on this the first day of her Majesty the Queen-Empress' Jubilee year, to appeal to the members of the National Association and to all others who are interested in its work to join me in making some special effort to commemorate the event, and at the same time substantially to benefit those Indian women, in whose sufferings the Queen takes so great and personal an interest.

One great effort made at this moment would be of incalculable service and would have far-reaching effect in carrying out at once those objects which the National Association is designed to promote, and in securing the future welfare of the women of India. A very little sum, whether in annas or rupees, from every one who can afford to give anything would make the subscription a really national one, and a worthy memorial of our great Queen's reign.

In order to facilitate the collection of the smallest sums, the following arrangements have been made.

I.—Collecting cards have been expressly designed for the occasion.

II.—These cards for the collection of Rs. 20 and upwards are obtainable, on application, from the Honorary Secretary during the months of January, February, March, April, May and June 1887.

III.—These cards will be numbered, and the name of the collector registered; when full, the card is to be sent to the Honorary Secretary, who after receipt, will return it to the collector.

IV.—Donors of larger sums sent direct to the Honorary Secretary will receive an acknowledgment on a larger "Jubilee" card specially designed for the purpose.

V.—All the cards are to be returned, and the donations paid in by the 1st of July 1887.

VI.—A copy of the Register containing the names of all those who have aided in this work will be handsomely bound and presented to her Majesty the Queen-Empress as a souvenir of the occasion.

VII.—All money subscribed to this Jubilee Fund is to be paid into the Central Committee, but every collector of small sums, or donor of large ones, may, when sending it to the Honorary Secretary, specify to which Branch of the Association the collection, or donation is to be applied. In the absence of specific direction, the money will be allotted by the Central Committee.

3. The magnitude of the work to be done, and the peculiar appropriateness of the moment for doing it, encourage me to hope that my appeal may be successful, that I may be forgiven for making it, and that at the end of the 50th year of her Gracious Majesty's reign I may be able to tell the Queen-Empress, that her well-known sympathy for the women of India has borne fruit, and that the Association formed for their benefit and of which her Majesty is Patron has, as a memorial of her Jubilee year, received such substantial support as to place it on a firm and lasting foundation.—I remain, Sir, &c.

(Sd.) HARRIET DUFFERIN,
Lady President, of the National Association for Supplying Female Medical Aid to the Women of India.

THE MATRICULATION EXAMINATION OF THE BOMBAY UNIVERSITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—The Matriculation examination of the University is becoming a very untrustworthy and illusory instead of a tolerably correct test of the accomplishment of students. The whole system of conducting it is faulty, and it is not surprising that the results of an examination so conducted are often startling and unreliable.

At the last Matriculation examination out of 2,561 candidates, only 526 were declared by the examiners to have passed the examination. I have been connected with a public institution, and have been preparing candidates for this examination for the last twenty-five years, and I remember that in only one year during this long period a similar terrible massacre of the innocents took place. Though the standard of this examination has been annually raised and lowered with the varying ideal of each fresh batch of examiners, it has never undergone, except only once, such a violent perturbation as in the present year.

It would be wholly incorrect to say that the alarming result of this year is solely owing to be unpreparedness of the youths who presented themselves for examination. I believe that this result has been mainly due to a deliberate or whimsical raising of the standard in some one or more subjects of the examination. The following facts, among others, lead me to this belief. Of the 2,561 candidates about two-thirds, or 1,700 candidates, re, I believe, from public schools, the rest being private students. This is the average ratio between public school, and private candidates. Leaving out of view the case of privately taught students, we shall examine the antecedents of the candidates sent up by public schools. In the first place, in all public schools, students come up to the Matriculation standard, only after having undergone examinations under all the lower standards, and been found fit for promotion to that standard. Now this is a material guarantee that the students promoted to the matriculation standard, in public schools, are all well grounded in the elementary branches of study, and are competent to study that standard. After reading it under able and competent teachers (all of them graduates of the University in all public schools) they are finally tested in a thorough and strict "Preliminary examination" in the month of September, and only those who, in the opinion of their teachers, are fit to go up, are sent up to the Matriculation examination. With these guarantees of uniform quality, it is difficult to believe that, while during the past seven years one-third, or more, of the total number of candidates sent up, have been declared successful, this year the material has been so bad that only one-fifth deserve to pass the examination. Surely, all our public schools are now as healthy as they have been during the last ten years. They cannot have undergone a very violent change during the last twelve months. The candidates of the present year must, on an average, have been as well prepared, and as strictly tested before being sent up as in past years. I for one can vouch that my material of the present year is as good as that of any of the past years, and I believe that this is the case with the material of most of the public schools. The following table gives the results of the Matriculation examination for the last 10 years:—

Years.	Candidates sent up.	Passed.	Percentage of successful candidates.
1877-78	1,030	217	21·
1878-79	967	261	27·
1879-80	1,093	436	39·8
1880-81	1,260	429	34·
1881-82	1,374	388	28·2
1882-83	1,600	572	35·75
1883-84	1,785	599	33·5
1884-85	2,036	849	41·2
1885-86	2,262	837	37·
1886-87	2,561	526	20·5

These figures most convincingly prove that the material, which has been good on the whole during the last ten years, could not have become suddenly bad this year.

As this is a matter seriously affecting the prospects of thousands of our young men, the flower of our youths, hindering, and in many cases altogether blighting their hopes of a bright career, it is time that some of the faults of a public examination of such importance should be exposed.

Firstly—Every year there are some new hands on the Board of Examiners. These new men cannot know exactly what standard has been applied to the performances of candidates by their predecessors in past years, and so they are left to set up a standard of their own, in all probability a higher one. The result is that the University should select the best men available, and appoint them examiners for life. The present system of asking scholars to become applicants at the door of the University is both degrading and demoralising. It is not calculated to secure the most competent men but rather the needy. Fix the remuneration sufficiently high, and appoint the best educationists available once for all. Above all, never appoint young and inexperienced youths to be examiners in any examination.

Secondly—The number of examiners appointed at this examination is not sufficiently large. For example, at the last examination, only two gentlemen were examiners in Arithmetic and Algebra (one paper) and Euclid. Supposing each of them examined only one of the papers, it is difficult to understand how one man can satisfactorily examine 2,561 Euclid papers in less than a month along with his other duties. Supposing he observed no Sundays and holidays, and worked every day of the week, he would have to examine at the rate of about 90 Euclid papers a day, consecutively for 28 days. I for one cannot believe that the man can do this satisfactorily along with his other duties, and I appeal to the public to say whether they believe that that feat can be performed. If it cannot be done, a great wrong is done to the unfortunate candidates, who have been "plucked" in that paper through hurry, oversight, impatience and worry, which are inseparable from an attempt of the kind mentioned above. Only a little more than three weeks being allowed for making up the results of this examination, no examiner should have more than 600 or 700 papers given him for examination. That at the last examination two examiners were given 5,122 papers between them for examination within a month, and the Syndicate believed that this task was satisfactorily done by them, only shows how much need there is for an inquiry into such a system. The first reform required is that a sufficient number of examiners in each subject should be permanently appointed.

It may be alleged that this will involve much additional expenditure, perhaps, beyond the means of the University. To this I would say that it is far better to hold no examination at all than any examination badly and carelessly conducted. I maintain that the fees collected from the candidates are ample to secure a sufficient number of examiners of the highest standing and culture, and to pay them handsomely. It is generally believed that the University makes a profit out of the Matriculation fees. If this is untrue, let the University authorities remove this prevalent belief so prejudicial to its name. If it is true, it is not right in the University to make a profit out of the high examination fees it levies from candidates, the majority of whom are sons of persons of very limited means. Having been connected during the last twenty-five years with public schools in almost all parts of the Bombay presidency, I fully know the means of the persons, whose children attend our public schools. A large majority of them (except in the city of Bombay) have an income of between Rs. 25 and Rs. 40 a month on which they have to maintain themselves and their families, and educate their children. Some of them have an income of between Rs. 12 and 15 a month. I speak from personal knowledge. It is from these men that the University levies an examination fee of Rs. 10 (nearly half the monthly income of many parents), and puts them besides to additional expenses of an equal amount for the privilege of sending their children to a distant centre where it holds its examination. Money thus levied from poor persons should be strictly accounted for. Through the medium of your paper I most humbly and respectfully ask the University authorities to inform the public whether the sum of Rs. 25,610, levied from the Matriculation candidates this year, has all been spent in remunerating the Matriculation examiners, or whether a large balance represents the profits of the University in this transaction. This point should be cleared up in the interest of the poor candidates, who have to pay a heavy fee of Rs. 10. I know of some parents who having no cash on hand, have had to go to a *sowkar* and take a loan from him to pay the Matriculation fee of their children, and I myself have assisted poor students in collecting subscriptions from charitable

Harbour. The Bombay country, though it is seldom practised in the lower provinces. But those who have had the pleasure of visiting Jodhpur for any time must know that the sport is often very cheerfully carried on there by the guests of the Maharajah and the Prince. The dogs used are of a fair size who do not seem to be of any very particular breed; in fact, we should say that there was a good deal of country-bred pariah amongst many of them. Still they manage to do their work well and are good hands at tackling.

Mr. Weeks' horses which were put up for sale at Cook and Co.'s last week, with few exceptions, by no means realised prices which the owner anticipated, although he strenuously exercised his eloquence in the auctioneering ring in giving a full description of each animal with its performances and pedigree. It need hardly be added that after such a result, Mr. Weeks once more announced his intention of never again bringing any horses to India.—*Asian.*

RACING WEIGHTS.

The death of Archer and the proposal to form a memorial to him at Newmarket have called forth a long discussion in the sporting papers as to the weights at present carried by horses in both handicaps and as weight-for-age races. Opinions, of course, are much divided on the subject, but there seems to be little or no doubt that the question will, in very short time, be most prominently brought before the members of the Jockey Club. The first important person to move in the matter is the well-known trainer Mr. Mat. Dawson, who argues that if the weights were raised 7lbs. all round, it would try to reduce themselves as to weight, and thus suffer to the same extent as poor Archer did in trying to reduce himself to 8st. 6lbs. He also considers that raising the weights would only be meet the requirements of two or three jockeys, but if any practical good can be done he has no objection to the weights being raised. He further points out that such well-known jockeys as the Chiveys, Buckie, Robinson, Scott, Aldcroft, S. Osborne, Fordham and others rode under the present scale of weights. Another equally well-known trainer, Mr. Thomas Jennings, is of opinion that the scale of weights can be raised, especially in the weight-for-age races, without the slightest injury to racing. He says that during the long period he has been in the habit of training his horses, two years old and upwards, the weights carried have been over 9st. and very often 9st. 5lbs, and he never detected any harm from so doing. A writer in one of the sporting papers also points out that in several two-year-old races at the present time, the young animals are called upon to carry nearly the same weights as they would have to do at three-year-olds, and that in Nursery Stakes the weights carried are often above the three-year-old scales but with regard to this latter gentlemen's ideas do not seem to be quite considered that the distance over which two-year-olds are called upon to compete seldom exceeds seven furlongs. One strong argument in favour of raising the weights for the younger horses is that with a competent man on their back they are likely to be better ridden and to be taught their work in better style than with the small boys on their backs who have not strength to hold them together, and who often smother them unnecessarily. There are, of course, a few brilliant exceptions every year, amongst the light weight jockeys who can do anything that is required on their mounts, but these exceptions are few and far between, and on the whole thing it would be an advantageous, both for man and beast, if the scale of weights was raised all round. If this should be done in England we may probably in a year or two find the scale also raised in this country where good light weight jockeys are at present very rare animals.—*Asian.*

DIVINE SERVICES.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS, JANUARY 2.

SAINT THOMAS'S CATHEDRAL.

8 a.m.—Holy Communion, Choral. Hymns 73, 197 and 200.
10-30 a.m.—Litany with plain Celebration and Sermon by the Rev. A. Goldwyer Lewis.
2-15 p.m.—Sunday School.
6 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Bombay. Hymns 185 and 238.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis—Elvey in F.
Anthem—"I shall see Him" (Balaam's Prophecy) Spark.
Psalms—Morning at 6-45 a.m. and Evensong at 4-45 p.m.
Thursday.—Epiphany Celebration at 7-15 a.m.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, MALABAR HILL.

7-30 a.m.—Matins and Holy Communion.
6-30 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,

CARNAC-ROAD, ESPLANADE, NEAR CHOWPATTY MARKET.
Pastor.—Rev. John Forgan, Marine Lines.
11 a.m. and 6 p.m.—Sunday Services.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, COLABA.

8 a.m.—Holy Communion.
11 a.m.—Matins, Litany and Holy Communion.
3 p.m.—Sunday School.
6 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.

MISSION CHURCH, GIRGAUM.

11 a.m.—Morning Service. Hymns 270, 271 and 272.
4-30 p.m.—Sunday School.
7 p.m.—Evening Prayer and Sermon. Hymns 90, 271 and 272.
Wednesday, January 5.
6 p.m.—Prayer Meeting.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, KAMATIPURA.

7-30 a.m.—Holy Communion.
4-45 p.m.—Sunday School.
6 p.m.—Evening Service. Hymns 73, 238 and 232.

WESLEYAN METHODIST MISSION HALL,

PAREL-ROAD, (NEAR THE RAILWAY BRIDGE, BYCULLA).
9 a.m.—Class Meeting.
6 p.m.—Evening Service.
The public are invited.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, SONAPORE.

7-30 a.m.—Celebration of Holy Communion. Hymns 73, and 232.
3 p.m.—Sunday School.
6 p.m.—Evening Prayer and Sermon. Hymns 72, 74 and 200.
The offertories for Church expenses and poor relief.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, MAZAGON.

6-30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist.
7-30 a.m.—Choral Celebration and Sermon.
10 a.m.—Matins.
3 p.m.—Children's Service.
6 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon. Rev. C. S. Rivington will preach.
Alms for general Church expenses.

CHRIST CHURCH, BYCULLA.

11 a.m.—Morning Service, Celebration of the Holy Communion and Sermon. Hymns 30, 200 and 168.
6 p.m.—Evening Service and Sermon. Hymns 163, 73 and 170.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GRANT ROAD.

Rev. Abel Stevens, L.L.D., of U. S. A., the Historian of the Methodist Episcopal Church will preach in the Grant Road Church on Sunday, the 2nd inst., at 6 p.m. English speaking native gentlemen cordially invited.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

8 a.m.—Mackenzie Institute in connection with the Rev. Ry., Parel.
6 p.m.—St. Andrew's Church, Esplanade.
Hymns 30, 132, and 231.
Ps. 65, Chant 3.

ST. NICHOLAS (SEAMEN'S) CHURCH, PRINCE'S DOCK.

11 a.m.—Morning Service.
7 p.m.—Evening Service.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

Services will be held on board the Steam-ship Accomac, in the Prince's Dock, on Sunday morning, at eleven o'clock. Captains, officers, engineers, firemen, seamen, and others are cordially invited. The Bethel flag will be hoisted. Come and bring your friends.

THE WEATHER ALONG THE COAST.

(1st Dec. 1886.)

The following information regarding the state of the weather at different ports round the coast and Karrachee to Madras is compiled from the latest returns received by telegram at the Meteorological Office:—

Stations.	Barometer reduced to Sea Level and 32° Fah.	Thermometer in the Shade.	Wind. Direction.	Velocity per H.m.	Rain fall.
	Ins.	Dgs.		Miles.	Ins.
Kurrachee..	·113	65·9	ENE	13	0·00
Surat.....	·069	75·0	NE	4	0·00
Bombay	·047	74·4	ENE	8	0·00
Ratnagherry	·016	83·8	E	4	0·00
Mormugao...	·034	76·0	NW	6	0·00
Karwar	·027	78·1	NE	4	0·00
Mangalore..	·015	82·4	ENE	2	0·00
Calicut	·010	79·7	E	6	0·00
Cochin	·997	82·6	NE	Med.	0·00
Manitpatam	·974	79·2	E	12	0·00
Madras	·984	80·6	ENE		0·00
Negapatam..	·995	80·4	NE	8	0·00

ALL those who appreciate Lily White Teeth, Purity of the Mouth, and a Breath of Flowers should use KEMP & Co.'s FLORAL MOUTH WASH, which is both a perfect dentifrice and at the same time a delicious Mouth-Wash. For sale, Re. 1-4 and Re. 2-8.

BENGALEE.

CASUALTIES IN THE RIVER.—On Saturday last a passenger boat, laden with about a dozen passengers from the s.s. Tyrone which had arrived off No. 7 Jetty, from Chandhally, sank owing to the force of the wheel water of the steamer. Boats had gone alongside to take the passengers, and the boat in question filled. One of the passengers is missing. On the same day, while a boat laden with 340 bags of rice was fastened to the outer buoy of the s.s. Secundra, a country boat collided with it, sinking it. No loss of life has been reported. On the same day, while the s.s. Oudh was at the Sandheads, one of the native cooks was found missing. It appears that the man was seen early in the morning on deck, and was missed suddenly. On Sunday last the body of R. Higgins, third engineer of the s.s. Benhead, who was drowned last week, was found floating in the river, and removed to the Police Dead House, where a *pos mortem* examination was held. The inquest into the circumstances attending the death of the deceased is to take place some time this week. On Saturday last, S. D. Simmens, steward of the s.s. Mirzapur, was drowned under peculiar circumstances. Deceased went on the main deck from the cabin at 8-30. He was then seen amidships going forward, and shortly afterwards was discovered in the water. Efforts were made to rescue him but they were unavailing.—*Englishman.*

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

ARRIVALS.—DECEMBER 29.

Sitwell, Lt., Bl., 1st Durham., on sick leave, from Allahabad.

DECEMBER 30.

Tomson, Lt., Bo., 28th B. I., on duty, from Quetta.

DECEMBER 31.

Daniel, Lt., Bo., 1st N. Lancashire, on leave, from Mhow.
Pritchard, Lt., Bl. S. C., from furlough, from England.
Jeffreys, Col., Bl., R.E., on furlough, from Allahabad.
Reilly, Capt., Bo., Comt. Dept., on duty, from Deesa.
Gardener, Lt., Bo., R.A., on leave, from Poona.
Keszeth, Lt.-Col., Mad., 8th M. I., from sick leave, from England.

DEPARTURES.—DECEMBER 31.

Prendergast, Col., 99, Staff Corps, on leave, to England.
Mackenzie, Lt., Bo., 2nd N. Staffordshire, to rejoin, to Aden.
Brook, Lt., Bl., on leave, to England.
Hill, Lt., Bo., R.A., to join, to Aden.
Pritchard, Lt., Bl., R.S.C., on furlough to England.

DAILY EXPORTS.—DEC. 31.

FOR LIVERPOOL.

Kirby Hall (s), 200 bales cotton, G. Bythell and Co; 3,200 cwts wheats, E. Latham and Co; 1,920 cwts, myrabollams, J. Hurchand.
Inchgarvie (s), 4,000 cwts wheat, Lang Moir and Co; 11,000 cwts wheat, E. Latham and Co.

FOR LONDON.

Bokhara (s), 140 cwts fennel seed, Lang Moir and Co; 2,000 cwts linseed, Ritchie Stewart and Co. 2,000 cwts myrabollams, J. Hurchand.
Hazara (s), 161 cwts sandalwood, N. F. Sawyer & Co.

FOR ANTWERP.

Dago (s), 23 cwts weed seed, Volkart Bros; 390 cwts gingelly seed, A. Blascheck and Co.
Atrato (s), 450 bales cotton, Killick Nixon and Co; 1,000 cwts linseed, D. Sassoon and Co.

FOR MARSEILLES.

Accomac (s), 4,000 cwts wheat, Lang Moir and Co.
Roumania (s), 2,200 cwts mowra seed and 2,997 cwts gingelly seed, Ralli Bros.

FOR GENOA.

Lilburn Tower (s), 1,528 cwts wheats, Lang Moir and Co; 9,000 cwts wheat, Ralli Bros; 4,000 cwts wheat, Lyon and Co.

FOR TRIESTE.

P. Llewellyn (s), 999 cwts gingelly seed, Lang Moir and Co.
Titania (s), 230 bales cotton, A. Blascheck and Co.; 2 cases Indian curiosities, F. Fischer and Co.

FOR HONGKONG.

Possidon (s), 8 bales twist, D. Sassoon and Co.

FOR MESSINA.

Amana (s), 14,000 cwts wheat, Volkart Brothers.

THE SENSE OF SIGHT.

THE public hear a great deal from advertisements of the superiority of various spectacles, and imagine that the virtues of so called "pebble" spectacles will enable even the blind to see through them. Nothing is more delusive, and there can be no greater mistake than to use any spectacles whatsoever without first consulting a competent professional, whose business it is to prescribe them. In almost every case of defective sight the two eyes are affected in different degrees and very often require entirely different lenses, and most persons who are troubled can easily verify this by seeing how differently, not properly corrected, both eyes must inevitably suffer, and when ordinary spectacles are applied, the lenses being alike, the difference grows greater, and from the excessive strain of work on the best eye this is likely to give out first, whereas the eye most defective will get perhaps perfectly useless from want of seeing. The two eyes should help each other and they can only do so when they each see properly. Squinting is very often caused by this want of proper correction, and it is often the case that whereas one eye can see fairly well at a distance and not at all near, the other eye might be affected reversely seeing well near as for reading, and not at all well at a distance.

Glasses that you can buy for very little are as a rule worth very little, and although you may think them cheap, they hardly prove to have been very dear, as in course of time the eyes get to be so strained as often to require considerable medical or surgical treatment, entailing very heavy outlay, pain, and inconvenience, and after the most skilful treatment which might perhaps save you from blindness, but only leaving you sufficient sight to move about with. You then come to the conclusion that those cheap glasses, which made you see so well for such a short time, have turned out very dear, that you have probably spent a hundred times more on your eyes since you first got them than you could possibly have spent had you gone and consulted a skilled oculist at first, and that you have lost, what he might have saved for you, "your sight," which is priceless.

Mr. Lazarus is frequently consulted by persons who stated their inability to pay on account of their having such large families to support. They seem to forget their first duty of keeping their health and sight without which they would not be able to keep them at all.

Most people think that if they once begin wearing spectacles they will never be able to do without them, and in this they are as a rule correct, for their defective sight is nearly always chronic and requires to be always helped. There could only be one other remedy, the remedy of getting younger instead of getting older. Mr. Lazarus has often been told by patients that their spectacles made them feel younger, which can be thoroughly understood when they were enabled to see and work as well as they could 20 years ago.

Mr. Lazarus has supplied his spectacles to nearly forty thousand persons in India and has been honoured by receiving the following appointment:—

The Right Honourable the Earl of Dufferin, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, is pleased to appoint Mr. N. Lazarus, Ophthalmic Optician to his Excellency. By his Excellency's Command. (Signed) William Beresford, Major, Military Secretary to the Viceroy.

Mr. N. Lazarus may be consulted personally by appointment. Address—No. 28, Meadows Street, Bombay.—[ADVT.]

CALCUTTA COMMERCIAL.

CALCUTTA, MONDAY, DEC. 27, 1886.

GOVERNMENT LOANS.

* Per Cent. Promissory Notes ..... Rs. 97 8
4½ Per Cent. of 1870 (1885) ..... „ 100 0
4½ Per Cent. of 1878-79 (1893) ..... „ 101 6
4½ Per Cent. of 1879 (1893) (New loan) „ 101 6
4½ Per Cent. of 1879 (1893) (Coupon)

MYSORE GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES OF 1882.

5 Per Cent. for 20 years (1902) Rs. 100 0 Nomi.

CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.

6 Per Cent. of 1865 (1885) ... Paid off
6 Per Cent. of 1866 (1886) ... Paid off
6 Per Cent. of 1867 (1887) ... 100 4
6 Per Cent. of 1870 (1889) ... 102 8
6 Per Cent. of 1872 (1891) ... 103 0
5 Per Cent. of 1878 (1908) ... 99 8
5 Per Cent. of 1884-5 (1905) ... 99 8
5 Per Cent. of 1885-6 (1915) ... 99 12
5 Per Cent. of 1886-7 (1916) ... 100 0
4½ Per Cent. of 1882 (1902) ... 95 0

RANGOON MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.

5½ Per Cent. of 1881 (1888) ... Rs. 101 12
5½ Per Cent. of 1881 (1892) ... „ 102 0
5½ Per Cent. of 1881 (1896) ... „ 102 4
5½ Per Cent. of 1881 (1900) ... „ 102 8

EXCHANGE ON LONDON.

Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight ... 1 5 7-8
Ditto ditto, at 3 months' sight ... 1 5 13-16
Ditto ditto, on *demand* 1 5 11-16
Bank Telegraphic Transfer 1 5 5-8
Credit Bills (1st class) at 6 months' sight 1 6 1-16
Document Bills (1st class) for acceptance, 6 months' sight ... 1 6 1-16
Do. for payment, 6 months' sight ... 1 6 3-32

BANK OF BENGAL RATE.

(13th *November* 1886.)

Rate of interest for on demand loans ... 5 per cent.

MADRAS MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.

5 Per Cent. of 1881 (1912) Rs. 100 0 Nomi.

GOVERNMENT GUARANTEED RAILWAY STOCKS.

East Indian Annuity Class A. ... £21 } Nominal.
Ditto ditto Class B. ... £21 }
Ditto Deferred Annuity ... £100 }
5 Per Cent. Oudh and Rohilkund ... £10 150
5 Per Cent. Scinde, P. and Delhi „ £20 £20

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

BANKS AND FINANCIAL COMPANIES.

STOCKS.	Paid Rs.	Year's Divn.	Quotations Rs.
Agra Bank, Ld.	£10	2 p.ct.	125
Agra Savings' Bank ...	100	5 p.ct.	120
Allahabad Bank, Ld. ...	100	7½ p.ct.	186
Alliance Banr of Simla...	100	5 p.ct.	145
Bank of Bengal	500	5 p.ct.	360
Bank of Upper India ...	100	5 p.ct.	140
Coml. L. M. Bank, Madras	75	.....	5prem.
Delhi & London Bank ...	£25	1½ p.ct.	170
Himalaya Bank, Ld. ...	100	5 p.ct.	125
Mussorie Bank, Ld. ...	100	4½ p.ct.	110
National Bank of India...	£12½	2½ p.ct.	110
Oudh Commercial Bank ...	160	5 p.ct.	103
Rohilkund Kumaon ...	100	4 p.ct.	101
Simla Bank Corporation ...	325	3 p.ct.	201
Uncov. S. Bank (Agra)...	100	4 p.ct.	80

TEA COMPANIES' SHARES.

(Yearly)

Adalpore Terai (Darjg.) ...	100	4 p. ct.	70
Amicable (Assam)	100	nil.	Lqdn.
Anchal	100	7 p. ct.	70
Arcullipore (Cachar) ...	100	6 p. ct.	85
Assam Company... ...	£20	20 p. ct.	540
Baintburrie Tea Co., Ld.	100	nil	100
Balasun (Darjeeling) ...	100	5 ad.-int.	75x
Bengal (Cachar)... ...	100	nil.	30
Do. contributory ...	80	nil.	20
Bishnath (Assam) ...	200	4 p. ct.	107
Do. contributory ...	100	4 p. ct.	30
Borelli (Assam)	£10	6 p. ct.	161
Burkholah (Cachar) ...	100	6 p. ct.	45
Central (Cachar)	200	3 ad.-int.	114x
Do. Teral (Darjg.) ...	100	nil.	36
Chandypore (Cachar) ...	100	5 p. ct.	55
Dherra (Cachar)	£10	.....	50
Dhote Nagpore	100	5 p. ct.	40
Dhunsta Tea Co.	100	4½ p.ct.	...
Dolondai (Assam)	100	nil.	Lqdn.
Doobleah (Cachar) ...	100	3 p. ct.	39
Cutteechurra (Cachar) ...	100	nil.	100
Darg. Tea & Cinchon ...	100	7 p. ct.	127
Dehing (Assam)	90	3 p. ct.	23
Dehra Doon	100	5 p. ct.	50
Dejoo (Assam)	£10	6 p. ct.	110
Dessai & Parbutt (Assam)	100	9 p. ct.	80
Dhunsiri	100	5 p. ct.	95
Doom Dooma Ordinary ...	£10	13½ p. ct.	186
Do. do. A... ...	£10	8 p. ct.	156
Do. do. B	£10	15 p. ct.	168
Durrung (Assam)	100	4 p. ct.	34
Eastern Cachar	100	nil.	31
East India Assam & Cachar	100	3½ p. ct.	32
Endogram (Cachar) ...	£10	.....	100
Gielle (Darjeeling) ...	100	8 p. ct.	65
Good Hope Tea Co. ...	100	40 p. ct.	150
Goomtee Tea	100	18 p. ct.	98
Gowhatty (Assam) ...	100	nil.	Lqdn.
Gunjam (Assam)	100	nil.	14
Gyabarie (Darjeeling) ...	100	nil.	par.
Holta (Kangra)	100	11 p. ct.	72
Hoolmaree (Assam) ...	100	5 ad.-int.	90x
Hoolungorie (Assam) ...	100	nil.	47
Hopetown	100	6 p. ct.	100
Do. contributory ...	80	5 p. ct.	par.
Hotewar (Chota Nagpore)	100	.....	100x
Hunwal (Assam)	£10	.....	100
Indian Terai	500	5 ad.-int.	485
Iringmara (Cachar) ...	100	13 p. ct.	100
Jetinga Val (Cachar) ...	100	6 p. ct.	63
Jhanjan Assn. Ld. ...	£5	10 p. ct.	68
Jinglam Darjeeling ...	100	nil.	92
Jokai (Assam)	£10	10 p. ct.	130
Kalacherra (Cachar) ...	100	nil.	25
Kamptie Gwalite (Assam)	100	.....	par.
Khobong (Assam) A ...	100	10 p. ct.	105
Do. do, B ...	100	4 p. ct.	105
Kornafuli (Chittg.) ...	100	nil.	40
Kousanie	100	.....	Nml.
Kunchunpore (Cachar) ...	100	nil.	18
Kurseong & Darjeeling ...	200	3 p. ct.	90
Do. contributory ...	200	3 p. ct.	80
Kuttal (Cachar)	100	14 p. ct.	198
Lakatoora (Syihet) ...	100	4 p. ct.	82
Leesh River (W. Dooars)	£10	4 p. ct.	£12
Longview (Dar.)	100	6 p. ct.	60
Loobah	100	12½ p.ct.	120
Lower Assam	£7½	nil.	23
Do. Darjeeling ...	100	nil.	105
Luckimpore, Assam ...	£10	4 p.ct.	90
Majagram (Cachar) ...	100	nil.	19
Mosai Tea Co.	100	15 p. ct.	101
Min Tea Co.	100	5 ad.-int.	95
Mohurgung Tea Co. ...	100	5 p. ct.	100
Monacherra (Cachar) ...	100	nil.	15
Do. contributory ...	90	nil.	8
Moran, Assam	80	.....	30d
Mothola, Assam	100	10 p. ct.	90
Do. contributory ...	100	10 p. ct.	80
Munjha (Darjg. Tea) ...	100	nil.	80
Mungledye, Assam Tea ...	£10	nil.	nil.
New Gola Ghat, Assam ...	£10	.....	Lqdn.
New Mutuni (Cachar)...	30	10 p. ct.	120
North Western Cachar ...	100	5 p. ct.	85
Phoenix (Cachar)	85	nil.	30
Pankabaree (Darjg.) ...	100	5 p. ct.	65
Pashok (Darjeeling) ...	100	10 p. ct.	100
Phoolbaree Tea Co., Ld.	100	9 p. ct.	91
Puttarkuchi (Sylhet) ...	100	nil.	30
Rajabaree (Assam) ...	100	13 p. ct.	30
Ring Tong (Darjg.) ...	100	7 p. ct.	80
Rungamatee (Cachar)...	100	4 p. ct.	58
Ranglee Rungliot	100	5 ad.-int.	110x
Sapakati Tea Co.	100	14 p. ct.	110
Second Mutual, Cachar ...	56	5 ad.-int.	10d
Second Fallodhi	100	3½ p. ct.	100
Selim Tea Co., Ld. ...	100	5½ p. ct.	53
Singbulli & Murmah ...	100	5 ad.-int.	80x
Singell (Darjeeling) ...	100	5½ p. ct.	61
Singlo Tea Co.	100	.....	100
Singtom Tea Co., Ld. ...	100	11 p. ct.	108
Soom (Darjeeling) ...	100	14 p. ct.	85x
Springside (Darjeeling) ...	100	8 ad.-int.	87x
Sungoo River (Chittg.)...	100	nil.	29
Teendarrea (Darjg.) ...	100	3½ p. ct.	62
Teesta Valley (Darjg.) ...	100	5 ad.-int.	102
Ting Ling (Darjeeling)...	100	5 ad.-int.	95
Tingri Tea Co., Ld. ...	100	nil.	101
Tukvar (Darjeeling) ...	200	9 p. ct.	140
Upper Assam	£10	nil.	15
Wahabaria W. Dooars...	100	.....	...

COMMERCIAL COMPANIES' SHARES.

Agra Pressing Co.	100	.....	...
Agricultural Phospates...	100	nil.	80
Alipore Coal Co.... ...	100	nil.	120
Arakan Oil Co.	Rs. 9	.....	Nml.
Asiatic Jute Co., Ld. ...	100	nil.	Lqdn.
Bally Paper Mills Co. ...	£10	6 p. ct.	145
Barhagore Jute Factory ...	£10	nil.	83
Bengal Coal Co., Ld. ...	1000	6½ p. ct.	1,510
B. Baragunda Copper (preference A shares) ...	£10	.....	12
Do. Deferred B Shares ...	£1	.....	8½
Bengal Ice Manfg. Co. ...	100	nil.	80
Do. Mills Co., Ld. ...	£100	nil.	1,200
Do. Silk Co., Ld. ...	100	2½ p. ct.	88
Do. Telephone Co. ...	100	8 p. ct.	60
Bonded Warehouse	440	Rs 5 p.ah	300
Bowreah Cotton Mills ...	100	5 p. ct.	68
Budge-Budge J. Mills ...	80	nil.	52
Burrakur Coal Co. ...	100	5 p. ct.	150
Calcutta Hydraulic ...	100	nil.	98
Do. Steam Co. ...	100	5 p. ct.	110
Do. Tramways Co. ...	£10	y nil.	95
Camperdown P. Co., Ld. ...	100	5 ad.—int.	115
Canal Press Co.	100	nil.	85
Carew & Co., Ld. (Sugar)	100	4½ p. ct.	102
Cawnpur Cotton Mills Co.	100	5 p. ct.	115
Do. Woollen Mills ...	50	y 10 p.ct.	57
Ghitpur Hydraulic P. ...	100	nil.	60
Crown Brewery Musuri ...	100	y 7 p. ct.	105
Crystal Ice Co., Ld. ...	100	nil.	80
Darjeeling Himalayan Ry. Co...	100	8½ p. ct.	107
Do. & K. Hotel Co. ...	100	.....	...
Deoghur Ry. Co., Ld. ...	100	2½ p. ct.	92
Do. Mining Co., Ld. ...	10	.....	1
Dunbar Cotton Mills	100	nil.	33
Egerton Woollen Mills Co., Ld...	100	nil.	120
Empress Jute Cotton Co., Ld. ...	500	3 p. ct.	385
Equitable Coal Co., Ld. ...	250	nil.	123
Fort Gloster Jute Manufacturing.	100	nil.	19
Gobra Tannery Co., Ld... ...	100	nil.	100
Goosery Cotton Mills	200	5 p. ct.	197
Gourjoree Tea Co., Ld. ...	100	nil.	93
Great Eastern Hotel	100	3½ p. ct.	90
Hooghly Mills Co., Ld.... ...	75	.....	28-30d
Howrah Docking Co.	500	Rs. 5 p.ah.	115
Do. Mills Co., Ld. ...	100	nil.	93
India G. S. N. Co., Ld. ...	100	3 p. ct.	93
Jheel Pressing Co., Ld. ...	100	nil.	31
Kamerhatty Jute Mills... ...	50	nil.	90
Kangra V. S. Co., Ld. ...	100	y 10 p.ct.	110
Lahore Tramway Co.	100	.....	110
Landing & Shipping Co... ...	100	nil.	61 N
Lyell & Co., Ld., Allahabad ...	100	y 10 p. ct.	90
Morrison E. & Co., Naini Tal	100	y 10 p. ct.	95
Muir Mills Co., Cawnpore ...	200	y p. ct.	280
Murree Brewery Co., Ld. ...	100	y 10 p. ct.	140
Naini Tal Brewery Co., Ld.	100	y 12 p. ct.	108
Nasmyth's Pat. Press	100	nil.	70
New Beerbhoom Coal	100	5 p. ct.	100
Newman & Co., Ld.	100	y 5 p. ct.	90
Orissa Coasting S. N.	75	nil.	50d.
Planters Stores and Agency Co., Ld.	£10	3 p. ct.	£11
Rajmahal Stone Co.	100	y 9 p. ct.	80
Ramkistopore Press	100	nil.	56
Ranegunge Coal Assn.	100	y nil.	52
Riverside Press Co.	90	nil.	64
R. Scott Thomson & Co... ...	500	2½ p. ct.	228x
Scindia Paper Mills Co... ...	£1	.....	Nml.
Do. Vendors Shares... ...	£1	.....	Nml.
Seebpore Jute Manfg.	100	nil.	41
Strand Bank Press Co.	100	nil.	55
Tarkessur Railway Co.	100	4 p. ct.	105
Titaghar Paper Mills	100	4 p. ct.	102
Union Jute Co., Ld.	75	nil.	110
Watson's Patent Press	100	nil.	70

ad-int.—Ad-interim dividend on crop of 1886.
* Total dividend on crop of 1885.
† Total dividend on crop of 1886.
y—Dividend for the year.
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s—Sellers.
w—Wanted.
x—Exclusive of dividend.
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